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The

Safest Spraying Oil

The intense refining process to which NEPTUNE WHITE SPRAYING OIL is subjected, whilst imparting the correct rate of volatility that ensures a continuity of toxic film for a very long period, and the right viscosity that permits of easy spraying, entirely eliminates the harmful elements found in ordinary spraying oils.

For clean fruit and healthy trees, use NEPTUNE WHITE SPRAYING OIL and spray at the strengths stated in our booklet, "Neptune White Spraying Oil"—*Free*—on application.

NEPTUNE
WHITE SPRAYING OIL

NEPTUNE OIL COMPANY LIMITED: ALL STATES.

Organising the Fresh Fruit Industry.

GROWERS of fresh fruits throughout Australia are giving closer attention than ever before to the subjects of organisation and marketing.

While we have to work out our own salvation in Australia, it is undeniably true that we feel the reflex action of world conditions. Various countries of the old world, including Great Britain, have developed intensive agricultural policies. Mr. S. M. Bruce, Australian Commissioner, on his recent visit here, presented considerable data in this connection. Summed up, he urged that Australia should not increase her exports of agricultural produce during the next two years beyond the present average quantities going forward. He thinks that the era of agricultural development in the old world will pass its peak within the next two years, and that Australia should meanwhile display voluntary restraint: With regard to fruit production we know that Great Britain, Australia's principal export market, has made notable increases. Close, detailed information on this subject will be eagerly awaited from Mr. G. W. Brown on his return.

As regards Apples and Pears for the 1934 season. Australia has voluntarily restricted her exports, thus bringing the quantities into line with the expressed desires of the British trade. Certainly, it was regretted that New Zealand did not readily conform to the voluntary restriction as requested by the Australian Apple and Pear Export Council. This matter, however, is being negotiated, and points in dispute are being attended to, including the basis for restriction, uniform grading regulations, and the like.

New Zealand avers, rightly or wrongly, that her export fruit grading regulations are of a higher standard than those of Australia. It is quite certain that Australia and New Zealand must come into line on the subject of Apple and Pear export in the interests of the growers, both in the Commonwealth and the Dominion. Growers may be assured that their interests are being adequately taken care of by the Australian Apple and Pear Export Council.

On the subject of organisation, both the Australian Apple and Pear Export Council and the Victorian Fruit Marketing Association have recently come in for a fair share of criticism, much of which has been based on misconception.

The published suggestion, however, that these organisations are not actively in the interests of growers is to be deplored.

The half-yearly report of the Australian Apple and Pear Export Council—now in course of preparation — shows that growers are receiving faithful and unstinted services, not only in detail matters, but in matters of major policy.

As regards the V.F.M.A., its record speaks for itself. Growers have received savings of thousands of pounds—far in excess of any levies paid.

Executive meetings have been harmonious. With practical growers and capable business men on the executive, matters of detail have been gone into and finalised. The association has, by merit, secured the goodwill and confidence of Government departments, both State and Federal,—a situation long desired, and now attained.

Although the constitution of the V.F.M.A. has been questioned, no instances are recorded where separate voting of growers and shippers has been necessary, and, although the challenge has been thrown out, no one has brought forward even one instance where anything has transpired adversely to the growers' interests.

Here, again, in a special measure, the question of the marketing of fruit assumes prominence. "Marshal your facts," urges Mr. W. Ranger, manager of the Committee of Direction of Fruit Marketing, Brisbane. "Marshal your facts," he re-iterates, "then act in accordance therewith."

But is Victoria so far behind the times as has been alleged?

The report in this issue of the meeting of growers to consider the proposed orchard tax of 1/- per acre will be followed with close interest.

It will be noted that growers of specific fruits have organised separately in order to deal with their own specific problems—different in this matter of organisation from that adopted, say, in N.S.W., where, under the orchard tax scheme, the varying sections of the industry are handled by a composite board of directors.

At the moment, Citrus growers on the Murrumbidgee irrigation areas are not in accord with the policy of the New South Wales Fruitgrowers' Federation on the export control question. M.I.A. Citrus growers state they are not adequately represented on the Federation, and they are organising to oppose the Federation's policy.

The Australian Dried Fruits Association, a voluntary organisation of growers and traders, has been successfully operating for the past 34 years. The Northern Victoria Fruitgrowers' Association is a powerful and representative association for dealing with the transport and marketing of the various fruits grown in the Goulburn Valley. The Victorian Central Citrus Association has the handling of matters dealing with Oranges and Lemons grown in Victoria, and on the N.S.W. and South Australian borders, and, as the secretary, Mr. Parkes, modestly put it at the recent Melbourne meeting, "has done something in the way of the stabilisation of market prices." The United Berry Growers' Association also deals commercially with berry fruits, and handles its own matters of policy. The Southern Victoria Fruitgrowers' Association deals largely with the Victoria Market question, also the establishment of suburban markets for the better disposal of fruit. The Orchardists' and Cool Stores' Association has a useful field of service, and, in addition, there are useful growers' co-operative and trading associations in various centres, while the V.F.M.A. has unquestionably been a great benefit to the growers in matters relating to the export of Apples and Pears.

If the O. and C.S. Association desires that the scope of its activities, as compared with those of the V.F.M.A., should be delineated, this is a matter which can readily be adjusted, as both associations have a standing committee available for dealing with such matters without the necessity for press publicity of a negative character. Doubtless the president of the Orchardists' and Cool Stores' Association, Mr. Hatfield, expressed his own views, when he recently wrote to the Melbourne press criticising the V.F.M.A. This letter was illogical, and the question is being asked by many as to whether Mr. Hatfield had the authority of his association to write in its name instead of his own. Unfortunately, that letter was published elsewhere in Australia, and has done considerable harm. These are not the days for destructive criticism, there being so much useful work awaiting attention. At the conference of the Orchardists' and Cool Stores' Association, at Ringwood, on May 15, it should be possible to clear the air.

It came as a surprise, and with regret, to many, that Mr. Hatfield at the recent Melbourne conference, should have moved for the exclusion of the V.F.M.A. at the next meeting. This proposal brought forth a chorus of protests: the meeting definitely disagreed with the Cool Stores' Association's president, and not only was the V.F.M.A. invited, but a member of that organisation was added to the committee which is to draft proposals for the next meeting.

In regard to local marketing in Melbourne, the proposal has been put forward of having an organisation on the same lines as the V.F.M.A., i.e., with growers and traders on the same executive. The interests of the producer of fruit would necessarily be the first consideration. No one can attend the Melbourne markets without being instantly aware of improvements which are possible. These improvements are mutually desired by growers and traders. To some, the organisation of an association along these lines would appear a bold experiment, but to others it is the logical outcome, this method being in successful operation now in Australia and in other parts of the world.

:: :: :: ::

Successful fruit marketing, to give the best returns to the grower, is the objective.

PREPARE to check re-infestation!

Bryobia (Red Spider); Scale; Aphides; Bugs and other pests that hibernate—keep your trees clear of these for the sake of your next year's crop. The dormant period is approaching. Safeguard your orchard then by spraying with the most effective preventive against insect pests and scale.

Gargoyle Red Spraying Oil, increasingly popular with orchardists each year for many years, will prove most economical — because it gives the greatest and most lasting protection.

Gargoyle Red Spraying Oil is Made in Australia, and it is made to protect your trees! Order now.

Gargoyle

Red Spraying Oil

VACUUM OIL COMPANY PTY., LTD.

Re-Working Fruit Trees

Success with an Improved "Porcupine" System

95 PER CENT. TAKE: LOSS OF CROP ONE SEASON ONLY.

(By F. Walker, Lalla, Tasmania.)

AS CONSIDERABLE INTEREST is being taken in the matter of re-working fruit trees, since the publication of the export regulations, as recommended by the Australian Apple and Pear Export Council, prohibiting the export of many varieties of Apples, more or less largely grown in the various States, it becomes incumbent upon growers to take action, and reconstruct their orchards, with the view of cutting out the unprofitable varieties. This work has engaged the attention of very many growers in Tasmania during the past few years, and, as requested, we are giving a few notes of our own experience, and procedure, in our orchard at Lalla, which is giving very satisfactory results, and many other growers in various fruit districts in Tasmania have done the same.

During the past four years, we have practically reconstructed our orchard, in so far as obsolete and unwanted varieties are concerned, as we, in common with many other growers, when planting, included far too many varieties, which, from several reasons, proved unprofitable for export, also climatic conditions.

A considerable area of both Apples and Pears has been reworked, by the method known here as

the "Porcupine" system,

which we have improved upon. All existing spurs are cut clean away, and close to the stems of the branches, from the base to their tips, and scions of about five inches long of yearling wood are inserted under the bark, at suitable short intervals all up the branches, averaging about seven inches apart; the scions are pressed in under the bark, which is cut ⅂ shapes, firmly, and a light shoemaker's 5/8 brad driven home with a light tack hammer through the thickest part of the scion; no wax, or tying of any description is used, the parts are smeared over with petroleum jelly, this excludes the air and rain, and prevents entry of woolly aphis.

Tree after grafting. Note scions.

We find it an advantage to rework the trees from the middle of September to the end of October.

This time gives the best results; we have continued the work right up to the end of December, but find results are not so satisfactory as, when finished by the end of October. The scions the following season form the fruit spurs, and are lightly tipped or shortened; we get an average take of 95 per cent., and a good crop of first-class fruit is picked the following season, as follows:—one tree produced three cases of fruit four months after grafting, and ten cases the following season (see photo. herewith).

Propping heavy crop of fruit 15 months after grafting. 10 bushels per tree.

Reworking Improves Trees.

The reworking seems to have a remarkable effect upon the trees, even very old trees which have stopped growing are rejuvenated, and put on very vigorous new growth, which continues for a few years. We have had trees which have made only a few inches of wood put on up to three feet of growth the first year. There seems to be

no risk of die back,

or loss of trees, as often follows the older systems, which, apart from the considerable losses of trees, take about five to six years to come into bearing again.

Usually with this system one year only is lost, as full crops are picked sixteen months after grafting.

During four seasons of grafting, we have put on over 600,000 scions; cost, including sawing off of all existing spurs, and trimming same, runs out at less than 1/- per 100 scions; scions with about seven buds are used. It has been found that longer scions have a greater tendency to set fruit buds the first season than the shorter ones, which usu-

Three months after grafting: 1,400 grafts on this tree.

ally throw two wood growths only. On large trees, which would take on an average 1,000 scions each, the cost is about £50 per acre. This at first sight seems too expensive, but is not, when taking into consideration that it is possible to change over from obsolete and unwanted varieties that are producing, say, from eight to ten cases, yielding no profit whatever over cost of production (and, often, not that) to one producing, say, ten cases of a variety that can be readily sold at top market price, with the loss of one season only—the cost of £50 can be written off the first season's crop.

For example, this season from forty medium-size trees reworked in 1932, we picked 200 cases of Granny Smiths, which previously produced less than 100 cases of Late Aromatics.

NEWS IN BRIEF

The relative merits of cereals and legumes for cover crops are discussed in this issue by our Murray River correspondent.

* * *

The need is realised for instructing producers of dried vine fruits in the classifying the types of Sultanas by men with knowledge of market values.

* * *

River Murray growers are giving great attention to irrigation problems and the effect of irrigation on high water table and the appearance of salt.

* * *

Fruit packing classes conducted by the Victorian Dept. of Agriculture are greatly appreciated.

* * *

Gas Storage for Peaches. — Investigations have shown that gas storage Peaches take eight days to ripen at 65 deg. F., whereas comparable air-stored fruit takes only two days. A greater margin of safety in marketing the fruit will be permitted by the adoption of gas storage.

* * *

In the Orient Co.'s competition, two cases of Apples were sent from Victoria to London during April, where they will be judged by a Covent Garden expert.

* * *

The Lalla Apple is what might be termed a Red Delicious. It is a sport from Delicious discovered in Tasmania, and is being sucessfully grown in southern N.S.W.

* * *

The South Australian Fruit Marketing Association carried a resolution at its March meeting: "Until investigations completed, we recommend that the Canadian case be regarded as standard."

* * *

Tests in W.A. recently revealed that a good soil has remarkable powers for forming nitrogen. Leguminous cover crops are advocated.

Nitrogenous fertilisers should be applied in early spring: autumn applications were superfluous.

* * *

"Biennial cropping of vines is due to physical weakness more than to seasonal conditions."—River Murray Correspondent.

* * *

Is soil just plain dirt? No, it is a mass of living micro-organisms essential for root growth.

* * *

The poll of growers re Dried Tree Fruit Control closes on May 9.

* * *

The N.S.W. Minister for Agriculture has issued a warning against the plantings of increased areas under Bananas in N.S.W.

* * *

There are 31,000 acres of orchards in South Australia, representing an annual production of £500,000.

PERSONAL

Mr. H. E. Napier recently resigned from his position as manager of the N.Z. Fruitgrowers' Federation.

Mr. G. E. Kitchen Kerr, market manager of the V.C.C.A., addressing the executive of the Red Cliffs branch in mid-April, advocated one distinct brand for the Mildura district, quoting the "Sunkist" organisation in California, which had a common label without associations losing their identity.

Sympathy is expressed with Mr. J. P. Piggott in his illness. On his return from the Apple and Pear Export Council meeting at Sydney in November, Mr. Piggott has been in indifferent health and for the last three months has not been at his office,—the Port Huon Fruitgrowers' Co-operative Association, Ltd., Hobart.

Mr. Piggott has given good service to the fruit industry, and his many friends in Tasmania and on the mainland wish him a speedy return to health.

Shareholders at the annual meeting of the Ardmona Fruit Company extended to Mr. W. Young and Mrs. Young their good wishes for a pleasant trip and safe return from their tour of Great Britain, America and Canada.

Mr. H. Tidswell, who represented the Victorian Department of Agriculture as export fruit inspector at Harcourt this season, performed his duties to the satisfaction of growers. This was Mr. Tidswell's first season at Harcourt. He was pleased with the district and the quality of the fruit.

Mr. C. H. Cameron, of Red Cliffs, recently stated that 71 per cent. of the Oranges from the Mildura area were marketed under the auspices of the V.C.C.A.

Congratulations to Mr. G. Douglas, who has been elected Harcourt representative of the Victorian Executive in place of Mr. H. Ford, who recently resigned.

Mr. C. F. McCann, South Australian Trade Commissioner in England, will soon be in Australia. He is due to arrive on June 2, and will confer with the authorities on export trade matters.

OBITUARY.

Mr. Elder, who was for a considerable period engineer to the Croydon Cool Stores, passed away early on April 13. The late Mr. Elder was a highly respected citizen. He leaves a widow.

SHOWS TO COME.

Melbourne Royal—Oct. 18-27.
Adelaide Royal—October 6-13.
Brisbane National—Aug. 6-11.

Packing Apples and Pears for Export.

Valuable Enterprise by Victorian Dept. of Agriculture.

MANY ACTIVITIES OF VALUE to primary producers are conducted by the Victorian Dept. of Agriculture.

One of the highly appreciated enterprises in relation to the fruit industry is fruit packing instruction. Under the Superintendent of Horticulture (Mr. Ward), the packing instruction is in charge of Mr. B. P. Krone, with Mr. W. H. Harris as a capable assistant.

Since this branch of the Dept. was organised some ten years ago, the 1934 season is the busiest so far experienced.

Harvesting, grading, packing and marketing of all kinds of fruit are dealt with. Beginning early in the year with Tomatoes, Peaches, Strawberries and Passionfruit; followed by Pears, Plums, Grapes and Apples. As a matter of fact, all these fruits, or most of them are in season together. Mandarins commence in May, followed by Oranges, Lemons and Grapefruit. These continue until the end of the year and longer.

The busiest period of the year is from January until May, when, at times, it is impossible to cope with the work. This is the cause of the many requests refused. Some of them are shown in the list of packing classes herewith.

After the month of May, exporting is practically finished (excepting small consignments of Oranges during June and July), Oranges, Lemons, Grapefruit, Apples and Pears, are then the chief fruits steadily marketed until the end of the year.

Mr. W. H. Harris, Assistant Fruit Packing Instructor, specialises in packing classes. These commence early in the season (as soon as Apples or Pears are available) and continue until September or October. Mr. Krone is unable to devote time personally to the conducting of packing classes until May or June.

The result of the year's work achieved by all school children in the State attending the Department's packing classes is on view annually at the Royal Show, where a handsome shield and other prizes are competed for.

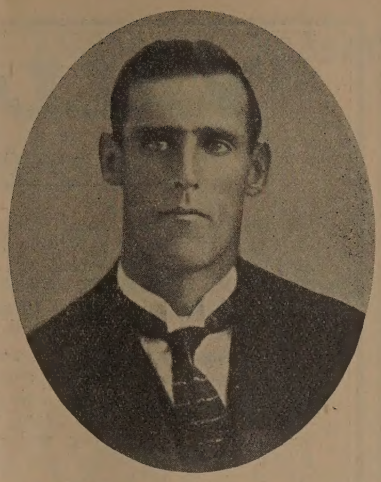
In addition to the practical or field work of conducting packing classes (adults and children), there has been an increase in requests for instruction from individual growers, also correspondence received from other States and other parts of the world. For instance, inquiries relative to Passionfruit from so far away as Trinidad are to hand.

"Straight" Diagonal Packs.

Some few years ago an important alteration in the packing of Apples in the Canadian case occurred. This is now known to the Australian fruitgrower as the "straight" method of diagonal packing. This system automatically creates larger pockets between the Apples, with less bruising and stalk marks than the now obsolete "angle" method of diagonal packing, with its closed pockets and larger percentage of damaged fruit. (The "angle" method is known in the United States as "riff raff.")

So noticeable were the advantages of the "straight" diagonal packs, compared with "angle" packs, that the Department did not hesitate to experiment, and issue new packing charts recommending a complete change over in the whole of the export of Apples from Victoria.

At first, very few would have anything to do with the new method. By degrees, however, as improvement in the packing became manifest, others follow-



Mr. Basil Krone, Senior Fruit Packing Instructor, Vic. Dept. of Agriculture.

ed, until in this 1934 season, we do not know of a packing organisation in the State that adopts any other method of packing. It is also pleasing to note, that the various States of the Commonwealth are commencing to adopt this method of packing Apples for export in the Canadian case.

The conducting of children's Apple-packing classes is especially appreciated. Best results have been obtained in groups of six to eight children, preferably not under the age of 12 years.

It is with regret that the Dept. announces that it cannot conduct any additional fruit packing classes.

The situation has been so acute that one district even approached its local Member of Parliament to force the issue for a class. The attitude of the Dept. is: "We would be only too happy to conduct more classes without pressure from outside, and when we refuse, it is only with the greatest reluctance."

The following list of packing classes show those being conducted, or about to be conducted this season, and those which, owing to the inability of the Department to handle so many classes, have been deleted, also those who have

Illus. by courtesy Vic. Journal of Agric.

A junior Apple-packing class at work.

"VALLO" Ovicidal Wash

THE PERFECT WINTER WASH FOR FRUIT TREES

During recent years, much consideration has been given to Tar Distillates as a Winter Wash for fruit trees, and as a result of extensive research and careful experiments, "VALLO" OVICIDAL WASH is put forward as a means of control of Aphids and other destructive insects. It is made on a neutral Tar Oil basis.

During Autumn, the eggs of Aphids and other destructive insects are laid on the shoots and branches of the tree, frequently many eggs being laid together, and they are usually well hidden from view. These eggs hatch out during early Spring and cause untold damage to leaves and young shoots and also distorted growth and loss of vigour to the trees.

The greatest contributing cause of unsuccessful control of these pests is in the fact that spraying is frequently carried out when the mischief has already been done.

"VALLO" OVICIDAL WASH is to be used during the dormant period of the tree, and, if used in strict accordance with directions, and properly applied, will give 100% immunity from Aphid infection.

A considerable saving is effected by using "VALLO" OVICIDAL WASH for the reason that it will obviate the necessity of Spring Spraying for Aphis, thereby saving a considerable amount of time and labour.

Recommended dilutions determined after tests in many Fruit-growing areas:

APPLES AND PEARS: Use 4 gallons of **"VALLO" OVICIDAL WASH** to make 100 gallons of Spray. Spraying may be carried out with entire safety up to the end of August, but is not recommended for use at any later period.

PEACHES, NECTARINES, CHERRIES, PLUMS, AND OTHER STONE FRUITS: 3 gallons of **"VALLO" OVICIDAL WASH** to make 100 gallons of Spray. Spraying should be carried out during June and July.

Package: Barrels, 40 gallons; Drums, 5 gallons.
Cases: 4 x 2, gallon tins; 8 x 1, gallon tins.

Manufacturers:

VICTOR LEGGO & FARMERS LIMITED

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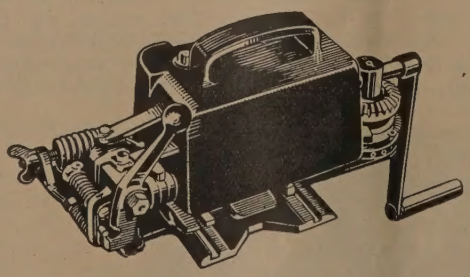
Python Service is embodied in the All-Australian Machine—Invention, Manufacture & Materials



EFFICIENCY	Hand-automatic, giving a uniformity of tension on every wire tied.
LOW RENTAL	With no further costs.
EASE OF OPERATION	THREE turns of the handle completes the tensioning, twisting and cutting.
SUPERIOR STRAPPING	A perfect tie with both ends turned down.
REDUCTION OF COSTS	Six ties for one penny.
NO WIRE RESTRICTIONS	Purchase your wire in the best market.
NO RENT FOR ACCESSORIES	Spools and stands for wire are supplied for your convenience.

Python Wire Strapping Pty. Ltd.

21 Howard St., North Melbourne 'Phone: F 2708. : : 42-44 Meagher St., Chippendale, Sydney 'Phone: MA 4392.

Sole Agents:—H. JONES PTY. LTD., Hobart and Launceston. GOLLIN & CO. PTY. LTD. South Australia

made application and unavoidably refused.

Packing Classes, 1934.

Classes are conducted at:—Fryerstown, Harcourt North, Harcourt, Sth. Ravenswood, Elphinstone, Campbells Creek, Pakenham East, Pakenham (Army-road), Pakenham (Catholic), Pakenham Upper, Narre Warren, East Burwood, Moorooduc, Hastings, Somerville.

Classes discontinued at:—Bunyip, Doncaster East, Doncaster West, Croydon, Ringwood, Tyabb Upper, Tyabb Lower, Mt. Waverley, Garfield, Red Hill.

Requests for classes which the Dept. was regretfully compelled to refuse:—Strathfieldsaye, Quantong, Toomuc Valley, Harcourt (additional classes), Harcourt North (additional classes).

* * *

It is pleasing at various fruitgrowers' meetings and conferences to hear commendatory remarks regarding the fruit packing branch of the Dept. of Agriculture.

In view of the increased demand for these services it would be a sound national investment for these classes to be extended. This would mean an increase in the staff, and apparently the Government is not desirous of incurring the expenditure.

The "Fruit World" affirms, however, that money spent in this way is well worth while, and yields tangible benefit to the State and the nation.

Then again, the "depression" will not be always with us. Now is the time to plan for the years ahead.

Mr. G. W. Brown Appreciated in U.K.

REPRESENTING the Australian Apple and Pear Export Council, Mr. Geoffrey W. Brown, President Victorian Fruit Marketing Association, is now in England.

Mr. Brown is conferring with the British Empire Producers' Organisation and is compiling a report on varied aspects of Australian fruit marketing in U.K.

In a letter to Mr. C. J. Parnham, Melbourne, under date March 20, Messrs. White & Son, London, write:—

"We had the pleasure of meeting Mr. Geoffrey W. Brown last Friday. We were very greatly impressed by his obvious ability and general knowledge of the fruit business.

As in addition to his competence, he had also an engaging manner, we feel certain a better representative for the fruit growers of Australia at the Empire Producers' Conference, could not have been selected, or one more capable of getting results in a Conference composed of men from all countries."

Orchard Work in the Dormant Season.

(By Frank M. Read, M.Agr.Sc., Senior Horticultural Research Officer, Victorian Dept. of Agriculture.)

IN THE DORMANT SEASON, many duties await the fruitgrower. This subject was capably dealt with by Mr. F. M. Read, M.Agr.Sc., Senior Horticultural Research Officer of the Victorian Dept. of Agriculture, in a broadcast talk from 3AR on April 24, in the course of which the following was stated:—

Manuring Practice.

The trees are now losing their leaves—are you watching them? No! you reply, you have more important things to do than to watch leaves fall: Well, I think I can persuade you that the pastime of watching leaves is not so unprofitable as you may imagine. For myself, I spend hours at it.

The manner in which fruit trees defoliate is by no means constant, even in the one variety in the one district; and these differences in defoliation are indicative of differences in the nutrition of the trees. The color of the leaves before they fall, their earliness or lateness in falling when compared with neighboring orchards, and the part of the tree which first loses its leaves, are all probably useful indications of the necessity or otherwise for artificial fertilisers to be applied in the following spring.

I do not mean to infer that defoliation can be used as a sole guide to manuring practice. It must be used in conjunction with observations during the growing period to which I have referred on many previous occasions. When a normal Jonathan Apple tree, for instance, loses its leaves, it does so in the following manner:—

Throughout the whole of the tree occasional leaves begin to lose their bright green appearance, become dull and yellow green, and then fall. It cannot be said that defoliation commences at either the base or the top of the tree; it seems to be fairly evenly distributed throughout. Neither can it be said that any definite autumn tints are developed in such leaves; they merely fade before falling. Trees which behave in this way are apparently obtaining from the soil sufficient mineral plant food of all kinds. That is of course, if during the growing season, they have grown quite healthily.

If, however, they are lacking in nitrogen, phosphoric acid, potash, lime or magnesium, they will lose their leaves differently. In some cases, strikingly so.

The following remarks are based principally upon experiments with Jonathan Apples, and they may not apply in their entirety to all other trees; but the general idea that defoliation is a most useful diagnostic guide is established, and its usefulness will depend upon the amount of accurate observation we can make. In this task every orchardist has a part.

In the Department's plot experiments at Burnley, the following characteristic symptoms have been noted.

When a tree lacks nitrogen (the principal element in such manures as sulphate of amomnia, nitrate of soda, and blood manure), it will have in the growing season small yellow green leaves; and before these leaves fall they will turn a very bright yellow color, as distinct from the normal dingy yellow green. Defoliation will commence at the base of the tree and work upwards, and most of the leaves will be lost very early compared with a completely fertilised tree. The bark will be harsh and red brown in color. Nitrogenous manure should be applied to such trees next spring.

If the tree is short of phosphoric acid (the active principle in superphosphate or bone manure) it will, in the growing season, have small leaves, but of a dark green, unlike the light yellow green of the tree lacking nitrogen. It will resemble nitrogen deficiency, however, in the development of bright yellow color in the leaves before they fall, and often a definite red or purple margin to the leaves. Defoliation will be very early indeed, and will start from the base of the tree. Very soon, only rosettes of leaves remain at the tips of leading shoots.

When a tree lacks potash,

on the other hand, it usually loses leaves first in the upper parts of the tree, from the extremities of leading shoots and high laterals. These high shoots are often bare before the lower part of the tree loses its leaves. No bright tints will be developed in the case of potash deficiency, the leaves being scorched and brown along the margins with dull green centres. Such trees should receive potash in spring.

A deficiency of lime will encourage the formation of autumn tints in the foliage. The leaves will be of normal size, and will defoliate throughout the tree. Very often, one or more branches

may show in all its leaves the development of a purplish wine tint. It will probably not pay to apply lime to such trees, however, unless the lime deficiency is serious enough to prevent satisfactory growth of a green crop or natural herbage.

Magnesium deficiency will in many respects resemble lime deficiency; but even brighter autumn tints will tend to be developed. This is not likely to be a common trouble in the field.

Go, therefore, among the trees to-morrow and see if they are quietly shouting a message to you.

Compare them with other orchards, and if you have the opportunity, other districts, for it is certain that in the next few years, thinking orchardists will base their manurial practices more and more upon information of this type, and less and less upon vague conjectures based upon the size of the crops borne.

The Orchard Greenstuff.

Now, while you are in the orchard, reflect upon the green crop, if one has been sown, or upon the natural growth of greenstuff. If good growth of healthy color is being made, all is well with the fertility of your orchard. It is probable in such a case that your trees are receiving an ample ration of minerals, and the humus you plough under will, of course, be of inestimable value.

If, however, you find that the growth of greenstuff is scanty and of poor color, you should take stock of the situation, for it is serious. Such a state of affairs, if allowed to continue for an extended period, must result in a lower standard of fertility; for it is this lack of humus which is one of the main causes of orchard soil in fertility in Victoria. It is now in most Victorian districts, too late to sow a green crop, or there is insufficient time for it to make headway before the cold weather arrives. It may, however, pay to experiment with superphosphate and sulphate of ammonia and lime as broadcast top-dressings on the natural herbage. A simple trial on a limited area carried out at the present time may give you valuable information for future use. The materials suggested should of course be tried separately in the first instance.

New Plantings.

Despite the alleged unprofitable state of the fruitgrowing industry, some orchardists will be planting out new areas this year. They are urged to see that the ground used has been carefully and deeply prepared, for after planting it is difficult to correct errors of this kind. In particular, they are reminded of the necessity for the thorough grubbing out and running of the roots of native timber as a protection from armillaria attack.

May is probably the best month for planting most deciduous trees, for they can then become established before the onset of winter, and are able to make rapid headway in spring.

Drainage.

Orchard drainage will certainly claim some attention, and it is suggested that no tiles of less than three inches diameter be used. Smaller tiles are too easily silted up, and thus rendered ineffective; nevertheless, they are still common in certain Victorian districts, their initial cheapness being their only recommendation. Avoid them.

Pest Control.

Finally, orchard sanitation, i.e., the gathering and burning of all debris should be thorough, for it is a valuable aid in pest control. In particular, it should be realised that the removal of rough bark from the trunk and crotches of trees is the most important step in the use of chemical bands for codlin moth control. Only when trees are thoroughly scraped free of rough bark do the bands exert their maximum influence.

Apricot Shot-Hole or Scab of the Apricot

Autumn Sprayings Necessary.

APRICOTS affected with "scab" or "shot-hole" will not be accepted for processing by the canneries as they desire only fruit with a nice clear skin for canning purposes. It is also undesirable that such fruit be placed upon the fresh fruit market; therefore growers should take every possible precaution to adopt control measures.

As the result of experiments conducted over a number of years by the Victorian Department of Agriculture, growers are strongly advised to apply an autumn spray to their Apricot trees before the foliage falls. The spray recommended, and the one that gives such beneficial results is 12 lb. copper sulphate (bluestone) dissolved in 40 gallons of water; 8 lb. of quicklime free from "rock" slaked slowly with water and brought up to 40 gallons. The two lots of 40 gallons are run at the same time into the spray vat. A sky-blue colored Bordeaux results. A spreader such as casein should be used at the rate of about 1 lb. to 100 gallons of spray.

An application of this mixture should, as already stated, be made before or at the time the leaves are falling, to be followed by another spraying of the same spray at what is termed the "pink-bud" stage. As a rule the two applications are sufficient to reduce the "scab" to a minimum.

Oriental Peach Moth.

This pest has been most apparent in the Goulburn Valley during the past few years, and it is estimated that the annual loss in the valley due to this

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pest is over £30,000 over a period of five years.

The Victorian Department of Agriculture is seized with the importance of eliminating this loss as far as it is possible. The Peach moth is located in various parts of the world, such as France, U.S.A., Canada, China, different parts of Australia, as well as other countries. Many experiments have been carried out with a view of providing at least a commercial control; so far little real success has been attained. Owing to the habits of the larva, it is difficult or impracticable to kill by a stomach poison; therefore other means will have to be discovered. The most promising is parasites, of which there are a number that can be tried out. Some two or three years ago, the Asst. Entomologist in Victoria (Mr. K. M. Ward, M.Agr. Sc.) bred out some 6,000 to 8,000 of one of the parasites as a trial; these were liberated in two orchards some miles apart in the Goulburn Valley. The results showed that the pest was reduced in these Peach orchards to a loss of only 2 per cent. of the fruit, whereas adjacent orchards suffered a 20 per cent. to 25 per cent. loss of fruit.

It is anticipated that the Victorian Government will place an entomologist, together with the necessary equipment, in the Goulburn Valley, with a view to investigating various means of control. In all probability the Goulburn Valley canneries will co-operate with the Department by providing some of the finance required for the investigation. In the meantime, growers should pick up and destroy by burying to a depth of not less than six inches, all fallen Peaches, and thoroughly cultivate the land under the trees and destroy any material that may harbor the grubs.

The life history of the Peach moth is somewhat similar to that of the codlin moth.

Irrigation and Soil Problems in the Bamawm District.

For some years past citrus growers in the Bamawm district have suffered serious losses owing to the dying out of a number of citrus trees. Preliminary investigations have been conducted by officers of the Department of Agriculture and State Rivers and Water Supply Commission. These have shown that before any method of correcting the trouble can be suggested to individual blockholders it is essential that a thorough soil survey should be made.

In all probability a Departmental chemist will make the required survey at an early date.

Messrs. John Brunning & Sons, of the Somerville Nurseries, Somerville, Victoria, have excellent stocks of fruit trees to offer growers. Their catalogue is obtainable free on request.

Oriental Peach Moth.

The seriousness of the Oriental Peach Moth infestation was stressed when local growers met members of the Closer Settlement Commission at the end of March.

There were present the chairman of the Closer Settlement Commission, Mr. Clive McPherson, and Messrs. N. H. Malcolm, and J. A. Aird, members of the commission, who were met by Mr. J. G. B. McDonald, president of the Shepparton Irrigators' Association; Mr. Neal Hanlon, the vice-president; Mr. N. Fairless, the secretary, and Messrs. W. Eliason and J. J. Young, members of the committee, Mr. L. J. Michel, president of the Shepparton and Settlements branch of the Returned Soldiers' Association, and the Secretary, Mr. W. S. Clayton. The representatives of the settlers were accompanied by Brigadier Bourchier, M.L.A., and the district supervisor of irrigation, Mr. R. G. Warden.

A deputation from the Northern Victorian Fruitgrowers' Association waited on the Minister for Agriculture (Mr. John Allan) pointing out the urgent necessity for action, as the Oriental Peach Moth caused £50,000 worth of damage this season.

The Minister said that the shortage of money prevented much useful activity. It was proposed to place an entomologist in the Goulburn Valley.

Mr. J. M. Ward, Superintendent of Horticulture, Victoria, states that one of the very disturbing factors in connection with the Oriental Peach Moth is that it is one of the most prolific sources in spreading the Brown Rot.

Codlin Moth in U.S.A.

THE CODLIN MOTH is still a very serious pest on the Pacific Coast of U.S.A.—where cultural conditions are in many respects similar to those in Australia.

A lengthy statement by Mr. E. J. Newcomer, of the U.S. Bureau of Entomology, is published in the North-West Fruitgrower (U.S.A.), dealing with methods other than spraying. A summary of the discussion is as follows:—

It is a known fact that a large amount of infestation is due to fruit cases lying in the orchard, The worms migrate from the fallen Apples into the cases and spin their cocoons in the crevices and corners. If not checked immediately, they rapidly spread, thus causing much unnecessary damage. Cases can be sterilised by passing through an insulated tunnel under powerful jets of steam. Another important factor is the prompt removal from the orchard all the cull Apples, as they form an ideal breeding ground. Chemically treated tree bands are employed as it is able, by this method, to catch 75 per cent. of the grubs leaving the trees. Baits are also being experimented with, but as yet the costs are relatively high.

* * *

The foregoing is of interest to Australian growers. In a great many instances, proper methods of orchard sanitation, as above indicated, are not adopted.

Australian Nut Industry.

Increased Plantings Advocated.

Mr. H. E. Eastwood, Senior Fruit Instructor of the Department of Agriculture in N.S.W., maintains that the Australian nut (Macadamia ternifolia) is becoming more popular on account of its superiority to other edible nuts.

Mr. Eastwood states that large areas could be planted with the Australian nut in the north-east coastal areas of N.S.W. The growing of this nut tree provides a good opportunity for establishing permanent groves, which gives it an advantage over the short-lived fruits so far grown commercially in the district.

The average age at which young trees produced nuts in any quantity and came into profit, was eight years. From aged trees, crops from 50 to 70 lb. or more per tree had been recorded in a favorable season. In 1932, 26 trees, 45 years old, yielded 1,625 lbs. of nuts. The prices offered in Sydney were from 3d. to 5d. per lb. In some seasons the price had been as high as 10d.

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New South Wales News and Notes

N.S.W. FRUITGROWERS' FEDERATION.

A meeting of the Fruitgrowers' Federation of N.S.W. was held at Sydney on April 6.

Present. — General J. Heane (in the chair), Messrs. A. U. Tonking (Orange), T. A. Tester (Young), F. D. Inman (Leeton), W. J. Black (Mangrove Mountain), R. Hill (Narara), C. A. Holswich (Dural), A. J. Taylor (Warkworth), S. C. Martyn (Armidale), H. L. Anthony (Murwillumbah), F. B. Mackenzie (Kurrajong), L. T. Pearce (Market Representative), and E. E. Herrod (Secretary). **Apologies.** — Apologies from Mr. H. G. Edgell (absent on a visit to America), and also from Mr. Williams.

District Conferences.—The Secretary reported that it was proposed to hold the District Conferences as follow:—Northern (Kentucky), April 19; North Coast (Murwillumbah), May 10; Cumberland (Parramatta), May 12; Central Coast (Gosford), May 17; Hawkesbury (Windsor), May 19; Central Tablelands (Bathurst), May 22; Southern (Goulburn), May 24; Irrigation (Leeton), May 29.

Annual General Conference to be held in Sydney on June 27, 28 and 29.

New Zealand Embargo.—The President reported the progress of negotiations since the last meeting of the Board. Mr. Stewart, the Minister for Commerce, had paid a visit to New Zealand to carry on negotiations on behalf of the Government as a result of which the New Zealand Government was invited by the Government to send a Ministerial delegation to Australia to still further discuss the position in an endeavor to reach finality, but up to date no official announcement had been made by the Government as the delegation from New Zealand has not yet visited the Commonwealth.

The President reported that every endeavor had been made by the Federation to secure some relief, but a deadlock appeared to have been reached. The Minister advised that he was making the utmost efforts to secure the removal of the embargo, and was still urging that a delegation from New Zealand should visit Australia at the earliest possible date for the purpose of continuing, and if possible, concluding negotiations.

In respect to the Mandarin position, the Board decided to again make an urgent application for permission to export Mandarins during the early part of the season during which time fruit-fly is not active. With regard to the other fruits, continuous representations had been made also, but there was not at present any indication of immediate relief, and the indications were that nothing was likely to transpire until such time as New Zealand responds to the invitation to send across Ministerial delegation.

Relief Grants—Apple and Pear Export.—It was reported that with regard to the proposed relief for Apple and Pear exporters under the Fruitgrowers' Relief Act, 1933, application forms were available from the Rural Industries Branch, Department of Agriculture, Sydney.

Fruit Fly. — Considerable discussion took place in respect to fruit-fly matters, and it was decided to ask the Department of Agriculture to make a further endeavor to secure effective parasites.

City Markets.—With reference to the City Council's approval for the opening of the City Markets all night for the reception of fruit, the Secretary reported that the period for which the hours of opening was approved ended on March 31. Representations were made, however, for a continuance of the conditions and approval has been given for the same arrangements to be extended for a further period of six months as from April 1.

Mandarins. — Further consideration was given by the Board to the present position as affecting the Federal Government grant of £10,000, and the attitude of the State Government in respect to the suggested contribution of a similar amount by the State, and it was decided to wait by deputation on the Premier with the object of submitting further proposals to the Government.

Citrus Export Guarantee. — A report was dealt with relative to the Federal Citrus Council meeting, held in Melbourne in February, as a result of which representations were made to the Federal Government with the object of securing an export guarantee for the present season. At present it is not possible to give any indications as to how the matter is viewed by the Federal Government.—E. E. Herrod, Secretary, 10/4/34.

ORCHARDIST SUES SPRAY MANUFACTURER.

Awarded £775 Damages.

Mr. J. A. Horton, fruitgrower, of Kentucky, N.S.W., sued Lane's Ltd., Sydney, for damages and loss of crop, and was awarded £775 damages. The case was heard on April 18 by Acting Justice Maxwell and a jury.

Plaintiff alleged that in accordance with instructions given by the defendant company's representative, he had sprayed his fruit trees with a preparation and arsenate of lead, and as a result extensive damage had been done to the orchard.

SYDNEY SHOW APPRECIATED.

Notes by Mr. W. P. Hutchinson, of Somerville, Vic.

AN APPRECIATIVE VISITOR to the Sydney Easter Show was Mr. W. P. Hutchinson, of Somerville, a capable grower and a member of the Executive of the Victorian Fruit Marketing Association. Mr. Hutchinson's comments are as follow:—

Of outstanding interest in the horticultural and agriculture Hall at the recent Sydney Royal Show were the eight district pyramids of fruit — five Apples and three Pears.

The five pyramids of Apples were particularly striking to the eye, each exhibit being a credit to the respective district.

Batlow, with 90½ points out of a possible 100, carried off first prize. Their exhibit was staged with Granny Smith, Jonathan, Delicious and London Pippin. It was indeed an excellent display, and well worthy of premier position.

Bathurst, with 84 points, was second, their varieties consisting of Granny Smith, Delicious, Jonathan, Cleopatra, Red Rome, and Stayman. This also was an excellent display, with probably the weakness in Delicious when compared with the first prize.

Hartley, 82½, took third prize, with Granny Smith, Delicious, Stayman, and Tasma.

Tallong Fruitgrowers' Association, with 80 points, were fourth, staging Granny Smith, Delicious, Jon., Rome Beauty, and London Pippin.

Goulburn, with 79½ points, were fifth, the varieties being Granny Smith, Delicious and Beauman's Reinette.

In every pyramid, Granny Smith predominated, and being well polished, was very attractive.

The Pear Pyramids

consisted of the following varieties:—Winter Cole, Winter Nelis, Beurre Bosc, Packham Triumph, Beurre d'Anjou, and Josephine. **Batlow,** with 86½ points was first, thus carrying off the double. **Goulburn,** with 79½ points, and **Tallong,** with

78½ points, filling the 2nd and 3rd positions.

In the case fruit, it was pleasing to see a Victorian grower among the prizes. Mr. Ray Bailey, of Narre Warren, taking second prize with a case of Granny Smith and Jonathan in the Orient Line Silver Cup.

The first prize went to Messrs. Butz Bros., who also exhibited Granny Smith and Jonathan. The New South Wales entry was a larger grade than the Victorian, with the case of Jonathan showing more "life," however, they were two good exhibits and the points separating must have been small.

Many fine exhibits were to be seen in the table sections. The chief prize-winners being:—

Apples.—Messrs. Holmes, Philp, H. and E. Vanzella, R. R. Smith, and Lewis Bros.

Pears.—Butz Bros., J. Holmes, G. E. Philp, P. M. Baaner and H. and E. Vanzella.

The fruit generally was of excellent quality, the smooth clearness of the skin being particularly noticeable.

The larger grades seem very popular in Sydney and Victorian exhibitors would be well advised to remember this point.

Fruit Show at Orange.

Excellent quality fruit was on view at the recent show at Orange. Fruits included Apples, Pears, Grapes, Peaches, Plums, nuts, and dried fruits. The Apples varieties included Jon., G. Smith, Rome Beauty, Delicious, P.D.N., McIntosh Red, etc. Pears, Packhams, W. Cole, B. de Cap., Howell, W. Nelis, B. Bosc. Prize winners included:—N. Offner, A. Offner, Atkinson Bros., H. A. Watts, Fox Martin, J. D. Casey, S. A. Stanford, T. F. Connolly, E. T. Hicks, N. Ross, N. C. Maybin, R. W. Scott, H. Peters, C. Cantrill, K. Groundwater, J. C. Ironmonger, F. J. Bohringer, E. P. Selwood, T. Millgate, G. F. Johns, J. A. Casey, O. H. Collins, W. Offner, R. W. Ray, N. Griffith. Packed cases Pears: A. G. Rymills. Apples, packed for Sydney market: N. Ross. Apples, packed for export: N. Ross. Jonathans, packed for export: K. Groundwater. Ch.: N. Ross. Apple pyramid: N. Ross.

SYDNEY VEGETABLE MARKETS.

The preliminary arrangements for the building of the new Sydney vegetable markets have reached a stage when only a short Act is necessary to be passed to finalise matters. Mr. W. J. Williams, Superintendent of Markets, states that all plans for the buildings have been passed, and that a start to demolish the buildings at present on the site of the new markets, will be made in September.

New Fruit Grades in N.S.W.

Apples, Pears, Peaches, Nectarines, Oranges, Grapefruit and Custard Apples.

THE PLANT DISEASES ACT in N.S.W., relating to the grading, were recently ammended.

Oranges and Grapefruit of special, standard or plain grade must be not less than 2 inches in diameter. The regulations now prohibit the sale of factory grade fruit on the open market.

Apricots, Nectarines, Peaches, and Custard Apples cannot be packed unless they are mature, also such fruit shall not be packed for sale in any package containing one-half bushel or more unless the exterior of the package is legibly and indelibly marked with the name and address of the packer.

For Custard Apples, "mature" means that the fruit has attained full growth, and the interstices between the corrugations of the fruit have changed to a cream color; for Apricots, Nectarines, and Peaches, the kernel of the stone must have ceased to be in the jelly stage.

For Apples and Pears the total area from limb rub, black spot, caterpillar or hail marks must not exceed ¼ inch in diameter, instead of ½ inch as previously.

Copies giving full particulars of the amended grades are obtainable from the Government Printer, Sydney, 4d. (including postage), There are four separate sets of regulations, and applicants, when writing, should state the set they desire.

Crop Reports.

IN THE LATEST REPORT on fruit crops issued by the N.S.W. Dept. of Agriculture, the following is stated:—

Apples and Pears.—A very favorable season has been experienced at Batlow, and previous estimates of Apple production has been considerably exceeded. The local cool stores are full, and additional space has been rented at Young and in the metropolis.

In the Young district the Apple crop did not reach expectations, and is said to be the lightest for years. Around Armidale, Granny Smiths promise a full crop of generally good quality fruit.

Good packs of Apples and Pears are realising satisfactory prices from orchards in the Goulburn district, but plain grades are difficult to sell.

Prune trees are blossoming freely in many orchards in the Young centre, and on the Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area, and it is thought that this bloom will seriously deplete next season's crop.

Bananas.—Weather conditions during early March were hot and dry, but late

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in the month showers were received, with generally beneficial results.

It is expected that the total marketing for April will be much lighter than for the previous month, although reports from Coffs Harbor indicate that good supplies are in sight, and estimated to approximate 14,000 cases. Railway consignments from this centre exceeded 10,000 cases for March, and approximately 4,000 cases were forwarded by steamer. Lower freights and increased facilities have resulted in the bulk of consignments being forwarded by rail.

Compared with last month the fruit in the Lismore district is showing a marked improvement. Around Brunswick and over a fairly large area in the Tarranora centre, cutting of fruit on young plantations is proceeding.

Passionfruit.—Little of this fruit is at present available on the North Coast. Around the metropolitan area (hills district) supplies are likely to show a marked falling off early in April, owing to the dry, hot weather of early March forcing the ripening. Blossom for the winter crop is now showing, but indications for a favorable setting are not promising.

Pineapples.—Fairly heavy crops are being harvested in the Alstonville, Wardell, Terranora and Lismore districts, and local demand is stated to be good. In the two last mentioned districts, prospects for the coming crop are stated to be very good.

OUT OF SEASON FLOWERING.

Plums and Prunes Affected.

Prune trees in the Lavington and Jindera districts of N.S.W. (near Albury), came into flower during April. The leaves fell earlier owing to a rust: then rain came and the buds burst into flower.

Mr. E. J. Clout, district fruit inspector, states that there would be no fruit on the trees next season, which will mean a heavy loss to the growers.

Jap. Plums, particularly Satsuma, at Campbell's Creek, Victoria, burst into bloom during April, due to the long dry spell and the late rains. This means that they will not bear fruit the coming season.

BROADCASTING.

Under the auspices of the N.S.W. Dept. of Agriculture, broadcast talks will be given as follow:—

June 1.—"Some Diseases of Stone Fruits" (by Mr. H. P. Brown, B.Agr. Sc.).

June 15.—"Strawberry Culture" (by W. C. G. Brereton, Chief Fruit Instructor).

The talks will be given over station 2UE, Sydney, from 8 to 8.15 p.m.

ARDMONA CANNERY.

Loss of £41,000 Last Year.

What is the Remedy?

A HEAVY LOSS — £41,607—was reported at the annual meeting of shareholders of the Ardmona Cannery early in April. The chairman of directors, Mr. W. Young, presided. Among other things, the report stated:

"It is regretted that the company experienced a very disturbed trading year in 1933. Markets, both overseas and locally, collapsed at a time when your company held heavy stocks following the high production programme carried through with fresh fruit prices for canning fixed by the Sugar Concession Committee at £12 per ton. The inability of the Sugar Concession Committee to fulfil the original promises resulted in very serious alterations to the prospects of companies such as your own. The guarantee on export was considerably modified after fresh fruit prices were determined, the corresponding loss on realisations having to be borne by the exporting companies. Another contributing factor to a loss of £14,823/10/9 was the almost complete cessation of sales in Britain after the unexpected weakening of the American dollar in 1933. Prices in Britain for Californian fruits decreased seriously, sales for Australian ceased for some months, resulting in a heavy carry-over of stocks at balance date (November 30). Reservations on those stocks have been created to the extent of £26,783/13/4, increasing the adverse total for 1933 to a total of £41,607/4/1. It is, however, satisfactory to report that at to-day's date practically the whole of the 1933 stocks have been disposed of, and the company's stock position for 1934 has been made much more reasonable. Steps have been taken to rectify, if possible, the enormous burden of interest which has been carried for the past eight years. The accumulated loss totals £144,579/10/2."

The two retiring directors, Messrs. H. E. Pickworth and J. S. Simson, were re-elected unopposed.

* * *

Two aspects of the foregoing are expressed in the Goulburn Valley. The "Shepparton News" states that "the only remedy is for the Government to take over the accumulated losses on both Ardmona and Kyabram, either as a charge against consolidated revenue, or as a loan to the company free of interest. (The accumulated losses at Ardmona are £144,579.) The article states that to the Sugar Concession Committee, which guaranteed a price to canned fruit exporters, can be traced at least £40,000 of Ardmona's loss." The Kyabram and Ardmona canneries were the aftermath of the Victorian Government's developmental policy of 1916, despite warnings by experienced growers and canners . . . Production increased out of all proportion . . . Both Kyabram and Ardmona were severely handicapped from the start . . . They processed large quantities of fruit, sold half overseas and the balance in Australia, against established rivals . . . The Government has a moral responsibility, and should shoulder its responsibility, much in the same way as it has had to do in regard to overseas settlers."

* * *

Another aspect is presented by other Goulburn Valley growers. The problem is admittedly difficult, and great sympathy is expressed with settlers, who are experiencing such troublous times. The questions asked, are, how would the desired assistance affect other co-operative, also private canneries? How about the subscribed capital in Ardmona and Kyabram canneries?

Would the desired assistance really stabilise the situation in the face of economic realities! Then, again, the shares held in canneries form the basis of right of supply, and any Government money rebated would come from the general taxpayers, including local growers not holding shares. Would this create district anomalies? In the event of the desired further Government assistance, would the Government take over the control? Or is an arrangement possible with other canneries for joint control under guarantee of processing an agreed quantity each year?

The whole problem is bristling with difficulties in the face of Australian and world conditions. Then, again, the Canned Fruits Export Control Board's policy in not selling last year to meet world situation, has caused much uneasiness.

If any readers can shed light on these matters, such contributions would be indeed welcome.

* * *

In the meantime, sympathy is expressed with that fine body of growers of canning fruit growers in Victoria, N.S.W., and elsewhere, who, in seeking to make a living for themselves and families under perplexing circumstances, are assisting to develop our rural areas and to build up the nation.

CANNED FRUITS AT LEETON.

2,800 tons of Peaches have been put through the Leeton Cannery during the season. Big overseas orders have recently been received for local shipment.

Dried Fruit Sales.—The Secretary of the A.D.F.A. reports that Commonwealth prices for all grades of Currants and Sultanas have been advanced ½d. per lb. Prunes have also been advanced ½d. per lb.

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Strawberry Culture.

Now is the Time for Setting out the Plants—The Different Systems Described—Manuring—Pest and Disease Control.

(By A. G. Strickland, M.Agr.Sc., Horticultural Research Officer.)

Strawberry culture among young apple trees.

THE STRAWBERRY is a lover of cool climates, and does best under temperate conditions. It will thrive under warm districts, where frequent irrigation is possible. The Strawberry is admirable as an inter-crop in young orchards or vineyards, until the trees or vines come into bearing.

Considerable quantities of nitrogen, phosphoric acid and potash are needed for Strawberries.

The following programme of fertilising is suggested, subject to modification according to soil and climatic conditions, —per acre: Autumn (before planting), 2 cwt. super (or 4 cwt. blood and bone), 1 to 2 cwt. sulphate of potash. Early Spring: 2 to 4 cwt. super, 1 to 2 cwt. sulphate of potash, 1 to 2 cwt. nitrate of soda, or sulphate of ammonia.

In an established plantation the early spring dressing only will be needed.

For commercial purposes, the life of a Strawberry plant may be considered as not more than three years. Early autumn planting is best.

Planting Systems.

There are three main systems of training, the matted row, the hedge-row, and the hill system.

With the matted row system the rows are 4 ft. apart, and the plants 30 in. in the row (4,400 plants per acre). Runners develop, forming a solid row 1 to 2 ft. wide, 6 inches being reserved between rows for pickers. This reduces labor, and heavy crops are picked, but the fruit is usually small, and only suitable for factories.

The hedge-row system has rows 3 ft. apart, and plants 2 ft. apart. After the first fruiting season each plant is allowed to produce two (or more) runners. With two runners a single row is produced, with plants evenly spaced at 8 inches. There are variations possible with this system.

The Hill System

is generally adopted in Victoria, the plants being set 12 to 15 inches apart, in rows 30 inches apart; no runners are allowed to develop except to fill in misses. The result should be good-sized commercial berries; 14,000 plants are required per acre.

Interpollination.

Some varieties, such as Edith, Sunbeam and Melba, have male and female organs, and are self-fertile. Others, such as La Marguerite, have only female organs, and need another variety which blooms at the same time for pollination purposes. With the three first-named, an interplanted variety to assist pollination is desirable.

Strawberry Varieties.

The selection of suitable varieties is one of the main factors governing success in Strawberry culture. Generally speaking, it is best to select those varieties most largely grown in the district, as they are probably best adapted to the climatic and soil conditions prevailing in that particular locality. It is also advisable to limit the number of varieties grown to as few as possible. Some varieties are pistillate (no pollen) or poor pollen bearers, and must of necessity be interplanted with another pollen-producing kind. If the fruit is to be grown largely for the dessert trade, different varieties will be grown to those adapted for factory berries. Color and size of fruit are important, and texture even more so.

The following are some of the more important varieties:—

Melba.—A very prolific cropper, which responds well under irrigated conditions in southern and northern Victoria. The fruit is large, brilliant red, and good crops are borne right up to late autumn.

Sunbeam. — This variety withstands drought well, and also gives excellent results under irrigation. Fruit is borne compactly, near the centre of the plant, thereby ensuring protection by the foliage from scorching sun. The fruit is rounded, dull red in color, and of excellent flavor. The flesh is firm, and the variety is therefore a good "carrier." In a favorable season it bears well from late October up to the middle of February without the aid of irrigation.

La Marguerite. — The berries have a particularly fine appearance, being large and brilliant in color, but the flavor is not so good as that of other varieties. This variety bears a large proportion of pistillate, or imperfect blossoms, and to ensure good setting of fruit it is necessary to interplant with a good staminate variety.

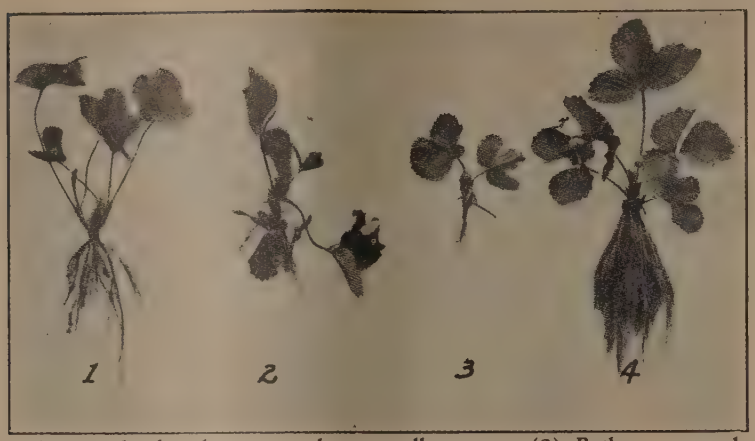
Illawarra.—A very vigorous plant, coming into bearing early, and, provided that runners are kept down, bearing until late in the season. Fruit is of a fine red color, large, and of excellent flavor.

King Edward VII.—The fruit is rounded, of rich flavor, dark red in

Planted too shallow. Planted at proper depth. Planted too deeply.

(Reprinted from Bulletin No. 335, April, '28, Ontario Dept. of Agriculture.)

Illustrations by courtesy Vic Journal of Agriculture.



(1) Over-developed crown and too small a root. (2) Both crown and root too small. (3) A very young and undesirable plant. (4) A properly developed root for transplanting.
(From Bulletin No. 325, April, '28, Ontario Dept. of Agric.)

color, and fairly firm in texture. It is a vigorous variety, and, being staminate, sets freely without interpollination.

Ettersburgh.—Fruit hangs in bunches well clear of the soil, and ripens very evenly. Flavor is good, and the flesh very firm. This fairly vigorous variety does best on rich soils, and is one of the best for jam-making or canning.

Leura.—A strong-growing variety, bearing good crops of medium-sized berries with a distinctive flavor.

Creswell's Seedling. — A standard variety in N.S.W., producing fruit of excellent color, flavor, and texture. It is a heavy cropper, and bears, in favored districts, from November to June.

Rhode's Special.—A good commercial berry which is reputed to be an improved, up-to-date, or Melba. The color is rather a pale pink, and the texture not of the best.

Wilson's Pride.—This variety is most favored in the Melbourne district. It is not such a good carrier as Melba, but bears heavily in this locality, and, when grown moderately close to the market is very profitable.

Several Strawberry varieties were imported from England in 1929, including Royal Sovereign, Bedford Champion, and Scarlet Queen. Bedford Champion has performed well in tests carried out at the Horticultural Gardens, Burnley, and also at Red Hill. It makes a compact plant, bearing heavy crops of dark red fruit. The flesh is soft in texture, however, and it is therefore a bad carrier; Scarlet Queen also shows promise, but is inferior to Bedford Champion.

VARIETIES OF STRAWBERRIES.
Left to right: Melba, Sunbeam and Royal Sovereign.

Pest and Disease Control.

Mr. D. B. Adam, B.Agr.Sc., Victorian Government Plant Pathologist, advises spraying with Bordeaux mixture to control Leaf Spot — first when plants are just beginning to grow in spring, and, secondly, just before the plants blossom; thirdly immediately after blooming.

Pruned and Unpruned roots. (Wisc. Bull. 360, p. 10.)

Where plants have died out it is frequently due to soil deficiency; nevertheless, fungi have been found present, and growers are advised, if desiring to grow Strawberries on the same land, to dress with two tons of lime per acre, at least one season prior to replanting; in the meantime, to grow a cover crop of Rye, Barley or Vetches for ploughing under.

To minimise losses from "fruit rots" (1) Extreme care is necessary in picking the fruit; suspicious or over-ripe berries should be omitted: any break in the skin is liable to give entry to fungus rots. (2) Confine picking to coolest part of the day, and keep berries after picking as cool as possible. (3) Washing should be avoided if possible; if it is necessary to do so, berries should be packed immediately, while still wet, rather than be dried off.

For insect pest control, useful hints are given by Mr. R. T. M. Pescott, Government Entomologist.

The Strawberry beetle is difficult to attack with a spray: use poisoned baits —calcium arsenate 1 lb., sugar or molasses 1 lb., bran 9 lb. Mix with water to make a wet mash: pieces the size of a Walnut should be placed in the shade under the Strawberry plants. Early spring working with cultivator exposes pupae to attacks of birds.

For control of the "Tomato" weevil, destroy weeds, especially Marshmellows on adjoining land. Use poison baits as above. If crops are not ripening, spray with arsenate of lead.

The cockchafer grub is a troublesome little beggar, feeding on the roots. Cultivation in the spring exposes the larvae, causing rejoicing among the birds. Experiments in soil fumigation with carbon bisulphide and paradichlor-benzine are being carried out.

The "take-all" grub does not eat the roots, as is commonly supposed. It burrows through them, and does its damage to young shoots and foliage. Use

poison baits. Soil fumigation with carbon bisulphide is helpful.

A severe outbreak of thrips depends largely on earlier weather conditions. As a deterrent spray with benzole emulsion, 1 lb. to 5 gallons water. Nicotine sulphate and Black Leaf 40 are also excellent sprays.

For the metallic flea beetle, use arsenate of lead, also poison baits. Lead arsenate forced into the crown of the plant will control the light brown "Apple" moth (very similar to the codlin).

Vic. Journal of Agriculture.

must get all the organic matter, rotted manure, tan bark, or bush scrapings possible to dig in. In the absence of animal manures use blood and bone. All our heavy soils contain plenty of potash, if by good cultivation and liming, it is made available. Sandy soils are deficient of potash, and if real sand is used, some sulphate of potash will be necessary.

Lime and nitrogen should not be applied at the same time. If the liming is done after the first preparation of the land in autumn, the blood and bone

Strawberries planted on the hill system at Red Hill, Vic.

Strawberry Culture in N.S.W.

Summary of a Lecture Given by Mr. H. J. Rumsey, before The Horticultural Council of N.S.W.

THE STRAWBERRY is one of the best berry fruits for coastal areas. Lime is of value, as it will disintegrate a clay soil and will also make a sandy soil compact. Lime has not only a mechanical effect on the soil, but to a small extent is a plant food, and to a greater extent is valuable in making plant foods already in the soil more available. It has a sweetening effect on sour soils, or, more properly, we should say, will tend to make an acid soil neutral. There are many diseases affecting the Strawberry plant that do not flourish in the presence of lime.

The classic instance of Strawberry culture in this State is that of Mr. Hessell Hall, on the Lapstone Hill, beyond Emu Plains, where he grew £80 worth of berries on one-seventh of an acre of very poor soil, prepared by deep trenching.

If one has a bit of new bush land with plenty of leaf mould, or, even an old grass plot to turn in deeply, one will have a good start, but if not, we should be added just before the plants are put out in late winter or early spring.

It is difficult to advise re varieties. First, you must grow a berry to suit your market, for shop sales, private sales, jam factories or drink flavor. The latter is the most critical.

Then, Strawberries are so extremely local in their habits that a variety that does well in one part may be a failure in another. The best advice is to get a berry with a good reputation for main planting, and try several other sorts, with the hope of finding something better.

We have grown and discarded hundreds of varieties, and are still trying new varieties. We not long ago obtained 20 new varieties from Washington, U.S.A., and find several of very great promise among them.

The variety that has given the greatest all-round satisfaction for several years is a variety that we imported from the California grower, Etters, It is called Fendalcino; it is not a perfect flowering variety, however, and must have every third row or plant of another variety for pollination.

Strawberry Culture in Queensland.

Mr. H. Barnes, director of Fruit Culture, Queensland Department of Agriculture, writing in the Queensland Agricultural Journal, on the subject of Strawberry culture, states as follows:—

Varieties. Although most of the standard varieties of Strawberries have been grown in Queensland at one time or another, experience has shown that no one variety has proved permanent, but that it has been necessary to either raise new kinds from seed or to introduce them from elsewhere. Varieties producing perfect flowers have proved more profitable than pistillate sorts, and are therefore most commonly met with.

After being grown in Queensland for a few years, most varieties become weaker in growth, more liable to disease, and less prolific, so that they have to be discarded. The introduction of new sorts is thus essential, and there is no better way of doing this than by raising local seedlings. Some of the best sorts ever grown in the State have been locally raised seedlings, of which the Aurie, Anetta, and Phenomenal are good examples, and there is no reason why sorts equal or even superior to these should not be produced. Of the well-known standard varieties, such as Marguerite, Trollop's Victoria, British Queen, Pink's Prolific, Federation, Melba, and Edith, and several others that have been grown from time to time in this State few are now planted. Phenomenal (a Gympie-raised seedling), and Aurie, another variety of local origin, are now the varieties most commonly met with; other new varieties are being tested, and some of them may prove to be adapted to our local conditions. The type of Strawberry best suited to this State is a vigorous, healthy grower—that is, a good bearer and producer of good, colored fruit of good, firm texture, and fine flavor, a fruit that keeps and carries well.

Tasmania Appreciated

Stationary Spray Plants: Golden Delicious Apple.

After his visit to Tasmania early this year, Mr. C. G. Savage, director of Fruit Culture in N.S.W., stated he was impressed by the manner in which growers were installing the stationary spray plant for spraying. There were now 46 such plants in the Huon Valley, whereas there were only two or three about four years ago.

Golden Delicious is among the Apple varieties coming into favor in Tasmania, and it has also possibilities in New South Wales. It is deep yellow in color, and has a good flavor. Although it ripens about the same time as Delicious, it is not actually related to that variety. Golden Delicious was under test at the Bathurst Experiment Station.

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Citrus News and Notes.

CITRUS CONTROL PROPOSALS.

Two Leeton citrus growers—Mr. J. Gordon and Mr. John Morris, were in Melbourne during April interviewing various authorities to impress the fact that Leeton and Griffith citrus growers were strongly opposed to the control proposals of the Federal Citrus Council.

They said that large and representative meetings of growers had been held and that the growers were solidly opposed to the control scheme. They said that there was no over-production of good quality citrus on the Australian market, and that the channels for the disposal of the lower grades particularly through fruit drinks had not been fully exploited.

Messrs. Gordon and Morris stated that a large meeting of Leeton citrus growers decided that no matters of major policy in future could be decided without first calling a mass meeting of the growers.

EXPORT OF ORANGES.

Federal Citrus Council's Request for Legislation. Statement by Mr. J. A. Parkes.

IN VIEW of the conflicting views of growers, especially in N.S.W., the following statement by Mr. J. A. Parkes, Secretary of the Federal Citrus Council, will be perused carefully by all interested.

The Federal Citrus Council meeting, which was responsible for the resolution appealing to the Federal Government for legislation to control export of Citrus, was attended by two delegates from N.S.W., one representing the M.I.A., and the other the N.S.W. Fruitgrowers' Federation.

The Victorian Council members were authorised by their annual conference to take action in the direction indicated.

South Australia has embarked upon a programme of export irrespective of Federal guarantee or legislation.

At the Interstate Citrus Convention, held at Mildura in February, 1930, a resolution favoring legislation to provide for the establishment of State Fruit Boards was unanimously adopted. This convention was attended by representatives from South Australia, N.S.W., Queensland and Victoria.

No official protest to the council resolution has been received, although New South Wales press reports indicate a difference of opinion.

Council realises that, if the calamity overshadowing the industry is to be averted, a large quantity must be exported, in order to stabilise local markets.

In view of the risk involved in export, an equalisation fund is essential, so that those who are prepared to ship may receive some compensation in the event of losses. It is generally admitted that a levy contribution on the production is impossible of collection on a voluntary basis, hence the desire for legislation in the direction of the appointment of an Export Control Board, working on the lines of the Dried Fruits Export Board.

In any circumstances a poll of growers is desirable, so that the position may be defined; until this is done, there is bound to be friction between the advocates of organisation and those opposed to it. If a poll is taken, and the vote is adverse, Council will then be relieved of an obligation, which it was felt rested upon it, to attempt to provide an outlet compensating for the great loss sustained as a result of the New Zealand embargo.

Citrus Crops in N.S.W.

Navels Medium: Valencias Heavy.

Local and Export Marketing Problems Discussed.

Views of Mr. R. J. Benton.

RECENTLY a report appeared in a N.S.W. paper indicating a heavy drop of Navel Oranges, believed to be due to oil spraying.

This matter was referred by the "Fruit World" to the Special Instructor on Citrus Culture in N.S.W. (Mr. R. J. Benton), who expressed the opinion (on April 24) **that the press references to a heavy drop of Navels was mainly imagination,—especially as the result of oil spraying.**

Continuing, Mr. Benton stated:—

The indications at no time of the prospective Navel crop were better than a moderate crop, and such is materialising in all districts. The crop will be a little below last year's quantity, despite the fact that trees in some localities are older and in a more favorable state for an increased yield.

Quite a number of localities at the end of January and early February reported some injury, which, on investigation, was mostly due to hot weather. Many of such trees were oil sprayed, and in several of such cases the "burn" was intensified. All the leading brands of proprietary oils were concerned, but, as already stated, there is no doubt that hot weather was primarily the cause, for unsprayed trees showed some injury. Such loss, however, was infinitesimal, and below 1 per cent. Only Navels, and some Lemons, were thus affected, suggesting such varieties as being peculiarly susceptible to injury for a brief period.

Early Marketing of Navels.

With regard to marketing, Mr. Benton said that many growers were preparing to commence early harvesting of Navels, hoping thereby to market as much as possible while values were above anticipated levels. A little fruit had already appeared, resulting in realisations of from 5/- to 7/- for Navels in April.

Export Problems.

"A number of growers' meetings have been held," continued Mr. Benton, "but no unanimity of objective appears to be likely; meetings to support an equalisation fund being established primarily to subsidise export, are being countered with meetings, whose objective is no interference with growers marketing as they wish."

Mr. Benton believes that Citrus growers would be wise to face up to realities in this connection. He states that many growers appear to desire to ignore the facts that their incomes each year have continued to decline, and at the same time the wool producers—through the press, at conferences, and other meetings — have expressed in no uncertain voice the impossibility of maintaining wool prices if producers sell their clip as they wish to buyers.

"There is little inducement to early packing for export, as was the case last year," concluded Mr. Benton. "Several packing sheds were almost solely engaged packing Navels during June and part of July, but this year much of such period will be available for marketing locally the supply, consequently, though the crop is lighter somewhat, it will probably be more difficult to maintain level of prices."

The Valencia crop is heavy.

The latest report from the N.S.W. Dept. of Agriculture states as follows:—

Citrus (Coastal).—Generally, the conditions prevailing during March were most beneficial to citrus trees and fruit. Navels and other kinds of Oranges are growing well and in some locations the first mentioned are maturing rapidly.

Recent bloom has been responsible for a considerable setting of intermediate crop fruit.

Mandarins appear to be sizing particularly well. Imperials on the Hawkesbury are nearing maturity.

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Mildura.—Oranges are developing nicely: the crop is expected to be lighter than usual. The season is about two weeks earlier than usual. Picking has commenced on some groves.

Irymple. — From May, 1933, to the end of March, 1934, Oranges despatched from Irymple totalled 83,000 cases. The new season for Citrus should begin this month.

Merbein.—For the 51-week period ended Saturday, April 21, 219,386 cases (consisting of 198,380 cases Oranges, 6,764 Lemons, 9,530 Mandarins, and 4,712 Grapefruit) have been despatched from the Merbein railway station, compared with 143,115 cases (consisting of 128,391 of Oranges, 3,583 of Lemons, 7,600 of Mandarins and 3,541 Grapefruit to a corresponding date last year.

Oranges for the East.—According to a statement by Messrs. Scott & Edwards, Melbourne, Victorian Oranges will be shipped to Britain and the East this season.

CITRUS STOCKS IN N.S.W.

Young trees planted out a year or two years ago at the orchard at the Grafton experiment farm (N.S.W.), have made rapid progress during the last six months, and Mr. R. J. Benton (citrus expert) stated that some of them are carrying up to two bushels of fruit.

Six varieties of citrus stocks, including Common Lemon, Sweet Orange, Seville Orange, Citrus trifoliata, Cleopatra Mandarin (from Florida), and the Sweet Lime, which has proved successful in Palestine were placed on trial. Although it is too early to draw conclusions, marked differences are present. Sweet Lime showed some indications of success, but it was likely to prove susceptible to gummosis, which has proved a troublesome disease and difficult to control.

ORANGES FOR EXPORT.

Adelaide (26/4/34). — The general manager of the Government Produce Department (Mr. G. A. W. Pope), has received cable advice from the Trade Commissioner for South Australia (Mr. C. F. G. McCann), stating that he has received enquiries from Hull, Liverpool and Sweden for supplies of South Australian Oranges.

It is generally understood that there will be a surplus for export this coming season, and Orange growers who desire to exploit these markets are invited to communicate with the Department.

Although South Australia is mostly interested in the production of Navel Oranges; the enquiries from overseas are also for Valencias.

FEWER MANDARINS IN VICTORIA.

In a few years' time there will be very few Mandarins produced in Victoria, is the considered opinion of Mr. J. A. Parkes, manager of the Victorian Central Citrus Association, the reason being that so many of the growers are changing their Mandarins over to Washington Navels and Valencia Late Oranges.

MANDARIN GROWERS.

Grant of £10,000.

When speaking at the Hawkesbury Show last month, the Minister for Commerce (Mr. Stewart), mentioned that the Commonwealth Government would probably agree to make the £10,000 grant to the Mandarin growers free of any contingency. The grant was originally made on the condition that the Government grant a like amount.

MERBEIN CITRUS ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of the Merbein Citrus Association was held on April 20, Mr. R. K. Rodwell (president) occupying the chair. The annual report and financial statement disclosed a satisfactory position.

Captain D. B. Halhed was renominated as a director on the board of the V.C.C.A., and Mr. A. E. Cameron, of Red Cliffs, was nominated for the vacancy created by the resignation of Mr. A. Schwenneson.

Office-bearers were elected as follows —President, Mr. R. K. Rodwell; secretary and treasurer, Mr. A. D. Leng; general committee, Messrs. D. B. Halhed, F. H. Goucher, H. O. Symons, S. H. Brinsden, and W. Hudson. Delegates to central executive: Messrs. R. K. Rodwell, H. O. Symons and A. D. Leng.

N.S.W. CITRUS EXPORT.

Probably Equal to Last Year.

At the present time it is difficult to indicate the quantity of Citrus fruit likely to be exported from N.S.W., as a number of growers are awaiting the Government's decision as to a guarantee before deciding. The crop of Navels and Common Oranges is not a heavy one, but Valencias will be very plentiful in all districts.

It is anticipated that the quantity exported will be at least equal to last season, and probably heavier in Vals. Several steamers have already been arranged, and the first shipment will be leaving Sydney on June 4 by the "Ballarat" to London, followed by the "Ascanius" on June 5, with fruit for Liverpool and Glasgow.

Export Apple Packing

Packing by Count Recommended for Canadian Case.

Sir,—I would like to make the following clear and definite statement through the columns of the "Fruit World," in connection with the packing of Apples for export.

As a result of observations during the export season now closing, it does not appear to be generally known that the **Canadian Apple box** is especially adapted for **packing by counts**, and **not by sizes.**

It is really unfair to the fruitgrower, the packer, the buyer, and the Inspector if Apples are packed strictly by size. **Sizes are suitable for the dump case**, but not the Canadian case.

The Department of Agriculture issued a packing chart, which describes sizes. Some of these are very awkward fractions, and as can be seen from the chart, such fractions cannot be used economically commercially. From this, it is anticipated, that the packer would be encouraged to **think in counts** instead of sizes. Oranges are not packed, or sold by the size, neither are Apples or Pears in other parts of the world.

Sizes as defined by the regulations, and understood by the fruitgrower, cannot be packed to the best advantage in this case, hence the faulty packing noticed from some growers who are compelled, by virtue of their business, to pack by sizes.

The Commonwealth regulations amply provide for the packing of Apples to the best advantage. They permit either sizes or counts, therefore **Canadian cases should be packed by counts** and **Branded with counts.** The dump case should have the sizes.

Marked instances are 198 and 150 counts, which are, or should be, between the commercial sizes, viz.: The 198 count should contain a percentage of very large 2¼ inch, also a percentage of small 2⅛ inch (exact) Apples. Likewise, the 150 count in some varieties should contain a percentage of large 2½ inch, also a percentage of very small 2⅜ inch (exact) Apples.

When counts are adopted, the packer is enabled to pack the case attractively with the correct bulge and weight of fruit, not too high to bruise; not too low to become slack. When sizes are adopted, some in particular, if rigidly adhered to, become slack in the case during transport, and present a poor appearance when opened up. The experienced Victorian Apple grower is cognisant of this.

Yours faithfully,

BASIL KRONE,

Fruit Packing Expert.

Victorian Dept. of Agriculture, Melbourne, 19/4/34.

(The charts referred to were published in the "Fruit World Annual."—Ed. "F.W.")

Orchardists-Gardeners

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H1/34.

ORCHARDISTS' AND COOL STORES' ASSOCIATION.

Annual Conference, Ringwood, May 15.

THE ANUAL CONFERENCE of the Orchardists' and Cool Stores' Association of Victoria, will be held at Ringwood, on May 15. The preliminary agenda is as follows:—

10.30 a.m. — Assemble and roll-call. Official opening, His Worship, the Mayor of Ringwood, Cr. A. Temple Miles, J.P. Report and balance sheet. Address: "Fruit Export," Mr. J. B. Mills, chairman Apple and Pear Export Council.

2.30 p.m.—Address: "Fruit Cases and the Packing of Fruit, particularly with reference to Apples, Mr. R. F. Turnbull, B.E., Division of Forest Products, C.S.I.R. Address: "Standardisation of Fruit Trees," Mr. F. M. Read, Department of Agriculture. Election of officers.

7.30 p.m.—Address: Mr. G. B. Tindale, Dept. of Agriculture; address: Mr. J. H. Lang, "Power Plants."

Business forwarded by affiliated stores to be taken as time permits.

Reduction of insurance premiums on cool stores type of case, to be standardised for Apple and Pear export trade. Increased codlin moth infection and compulsory bandaging.

C. J. GOODMAN'S NURSERIES.

The Centenary fruit tree catalogue of C. J. Goodman's Picnic Point Nurseries, Bairnsdale, Victoria, contains a comprehensive list of fruit trees, small fruits, vines and ornamentals. The front and back covers show striking illustrations of Apples in natural colors. Various interesting nursery scenes are included, also a photo, of the founder of the business, the late Mr. C. J. Goodman.

Also noted were some fine trees of yearling Almonds, a nut deserving of commercial consideration. A Walnut tree growing near Bairnsdale is also shown which has a height of 60 ft., spread 42 ft., is 40 years old, and carries enormous crops annually.

A helpful feature of this catalogue is a chart of fruit tree pests and their control.

Fruits listed include Apples, Apricots, Cherries, Figs, Nectarines, Peaches, Pears, Plums, Prunes, Quinces, Citrus, Passion vines, Strawberries and Currants.

Suggestions on how to prune are included with drawings showing trees before and after pruning. Copies of the catalogue are obtainable on early application.

Let us face facts and with determination, a wide vision, faith, and good humor go about our daily tasks. Thus only will the work of the world be done.

Proposed Orchard Tax in Victoria

Referred Back to Committee and District Associations

A CONFERENCE representing many Victorian fruitgrowers' organisations was held at Melbourne on April 24. Mr. J. J. Tully, Doncaster, was elected chairman.

The object of the meeting was to consider State legislation to create Boards for the several sections of the industry —Apples, Pears, Peaches, Apricots, Citrus, Berries, and other fruits.

There was a lengthy discussion regarding the basis of voting. Mr. J. G. B. McDonald claimed 27 votes, being 3 votes each for the nine associations he had been deputed to represent. Eventually this was withdrawn and a motion by Mr. A. E. Hocking was adopted: That the recommendations of the Committee be considered by this conference: that delegates report to their various fruitgrowers' associations, and that a future conference of fruitgrowers' associations be held with the view of affirming or rejecting such proposals.

Briefly, the proposals considered were that a Board should be appointed by the Minister upon a petition by 50 growers whose area covered two acres or more, unless 50 other growers called for a poll. If a poll were taken 60 per cent. of the votes polled must be in favor of the establishment of a Board. On the Board (or Boards) eight members, representing districts throughout the State, would hold office for three years, and be eligible for re-election. District Committees would co-ordinate the activities of local associations in districts, conduct the election of members to the Boards, and co-operate with the Boards. A tax of 1/- per acre, with a minimum of 5/- annually was recommended on whatever fruit the Boards dealt with. The powers of the Boards were set out as follow:—

To be the official representative of the growers in all matters: to attend conferences, advise the Federal and State Ministries or Departments: to explore any means for increasing fruit consumption and extend local or overseas markets; to encourage the erection of packing sheds and cool stores; to assist in making fruit inspection effective, and as far as possible to persuade growers to limit their supply to various markets; to assist in improving transport and handling of fruit; to make arrangements where requested with fruit agents, shippers and others, on behalf of growers; to collect production and marketing statistics and to advise growers thereon; to assist, where requested, in making financial arrangements for local associations, packing sheds and growers; to prescribe rules for growers' associations; to collect orchard tax and pay administration expenses and return portion of funds to growers associations and to do all other such things and exercise all such other powers and expend such other sums as may from time to time be approved or directed by the Governor in Council.

Mr. W. J. Williamson, M.L.C., in presenting the Committee's findings, said no form of control was planned. He was 100 per cent. against Government intereference. The proposed Bill provided that any section of the industry could set up a Board if it desired. Such Boards would unite the industry, but would not exercise any control.

Mr. Pyke (Ringwood): "What about the last clause as to the direction of the Governor in Council?"

Mr. Williamson: "Cut it out if you like. If one section does not desire a Board it should not oppose the desire of another section which does want a Board. For one thing, the Board will not fix prices."

Mr. McDonald (Shepparton): "Then what is it going to do? (Laughter.)

Mr. Williamson said that better organisation of growers was long overdue. Fruitgrowers were the most disunited and helpless of all primary producers.

Mr. A. E. Hocking quoted Sir Basil Blackett and other authorities in favor of planned production and distribution which was coming whether we liked it or not. The Board would collect £2,000 annually from the Apple industry. He believed that growers needed to be disciplined and controlled in their own interests. The Bill would doubtless be opposed by vested interests as it would give effective control to the growers.

Mr. J. H. Lang (Harcourt) said that under this Bill, Boards would operate in much the same way as municipal Councils within defined areas.

Mr. W. A. Thiele (Doncaster) said he was interested to know where Mr. Hocking stood as regards control. He (Mr. Thiele) was opposed to the Bill as presented. Although a member of the Committee for considering these proposals, he had had no voice in drafting the present proposals. The meeting had been called on an inconvenient day, and he knew nothing of the draft proposals till they were made public by Mr. Hocking. Who were present when the present scheme was drafted? Recently, S. Australian citrus growers were given a vote as regards control, and they rejected the Bill. Large growers at Leeton and Griffith, had recently carried resolutions opposing control.

Mr. J. G. Aird (Hon. Sec) said those present in drafting the present proposals were Messrs. Williamson, Hocking, Lang, and himself.

Mr. E. J. Crittenden (Burwood, E.) said the proposed Bill was a policy of despair. If it was to be a State scheme only, how could the proposed Board prevent the influx of fruit from another State? The machinery proposed was too cumbersome and the power of Boards too great.

Mr. F. Moore (Blackburn) and Mr. W. A. Webb (Doncaster) stated that although members of the Committee, they did not know of the present proposals till they were publicly announced.

Mr. J. B. McDonald urged the necessity for an adequate market survey before going ahead with legislation. Much had been said lately about controls. He was reserving his opinion. The proposed orchard tax of 1/- per acre, he thought inadequate. In his organisation some men paid up to £30 and £35 per annum each. Was the present proposal for a welfare organisation? If not, it was definitely a Government control scheme. The Northern growers were getting along nicely, and it appeared to him that best results would follow where growers of the several fruits got together to attend to their own particular needs—citrus, Apples and Pears, berries, etc.

Mr. Williamson: "This is not a control scheme. It is to overcome disunity."

Mr. J. Unthank (Somerville) asked where these proposals originated. Did they come from the rank and file? He thought not. His district was opposed to the scheme. The V.F.M.A. had justified its existence and had yet much useful work to do.

Mr. J. M. Mitchell (United Berry Growers' Association) said his organisation did not want these control proposals. Nothing had been said to show how berry growers would receive any benefit.

Mr. J. A. Parkes (Victorian Central Citrus Association) said he did not think this scheme would interest his Association. Citrus growers were organised into 23 districts, and had achieved something in the way of market regulation.

Mr. L. G. Cole (Tyabb) paid a tribute to the V.F.M.A., which, he stated, was an efficient but not yet perfect organisation. If these new proposals were accepted it would be the end of the V.F.M.A. From what had been said, it was evident that the control proposals came from three men. If it were not the intention of the proposed Board to interfere with export, why the words "to advise the Federal and State Gov-

ernments." What would the Federal Government have to do with the matter. The scheme included (section B) dealing with "local and overseas markets." What State Board could do anything as regards interstate trade? There was more behind these proposals than appeared on the surface. He would like to hear more from successful growers on these matters, and to hear less of the dismal picture of the industry as painted at the Box Hill meeting. Then again, why legislation to "persuade" growers to do something?

Mr. Hatfield proposed that only fruitgrowers' associations be represented at the next meeting.

Voices: "You mean to exclude the V.F.M.A.?"

Mr. Hatfield: "Yes, it is a joint association." (Dissent.)

On the motion of Mr. Willoughby, it was decided that the Committee be charged with the duty of seeing that each district is adequately represented at the next meeting, and to avoid overlapping.

On the motion of Mr. F. Moore, it was further decided:

"That the scheme meanwhile be referred back to the Committee, which is authorised to co-opt. Messrs. Parkes, McDonald, and a representative of the V.F.M.A., to discuss the project in detail and re-submit it to the conference."

The meeting then closed.

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Why a Glut in Passion Fruit?

Need for Correcting a Widespread Error.

Educational Advertising Needed.

ONE OF THE MOST DELICIOUS and healthful of fruits is the Passionfruit. Can anyone imagine a fruit salad without Passionfruit?

Yet this autumn, in Melbourne, good Passions were selling retail as low as 2d. and 3d. per dozen.

"Why should there be a glut of Passionfruit?" the "Fruit World" representative asked when walking through the Melbourne wholesale fruit market in April.

"There is only a limited demand," replied Mr. L. Rockman, at the stand of H. M. Wade & Co., "and when supplies come in freely the prices slump. For one thing, people have the wrong idea that the eating of Passionfruit is liable to bring on apendicitis."

On enquiry elsewhere among members of the general public, we found the opinion expressed was correct!

So we consulted some medical men, and promptly got the reply that the eating of Passionfruit had absolutely nothing to do with causing appendicitis, **rather, was the fruit a cure for any tendency in this direction.** The principal cause of appendicitis was constipation, and the eating of Passionfruit would help to cure constipation.

Now then, Passionfruit growers, what about it?

Here is a widespread idea among the general public,—quite illfounded,—and yet preventing the free sale of your healthful product.

Query—What can be done?

Answer — Educational propaganda, supported by medical testimony. Any cost involved would be quickly repaid by increased sales of the fruit at enhanced prices.

It is to be hoped that growers and distributors can get together in a mutually helpful way to improve the marketing of Passions, and all other fruits, and thus secure bigger sales of fruit at higher prices.

It is possible if we have the will to succeed.

Increasing Fruit Consumption.

Success of Dominion Mark Scheme in New Zealand.

This scheme is similar to the successful National Mark Scheme which is operating in England.

Australian fruitgrowers, who are naturally keenly interested in increasing the consumption of fruit, will follow with considerable appreciation the good work accomplished in New Zealand under what is known as the "Dominion Mark Scheme."

Under this scheme, good quality fruit is labelled with the "Dominion Mark" on a payment of a small fee by the grower. This fee covers the cost of the labels, and leaves a margin towards the cost of publicity. As the fruit has to be of a high standard before it can be labelled "Dominion Mark," buyers are sure they are obtaining good quality fruit.

Special attention is paid to spreading the knowledge of the value of fruit in health among school children. This scheme is under the direction of the N.Z. Fruitgrowers' Federation, and has the cordial support of the wholesale and retail trade.

Mr. Geoffrey Brown, who is at present attending the Empire Producers' Conference in London, will bring back a report on the "National Mark" scheme which will be studied carefully, with the view to introducing a similar scheme in Australia.

IMPERIAL FRUIT SHOW, 1934.

The Secretary of the Department of Commerce (Mr. E. J. Mulvany), advises having been notified that the Spring section of the Imperial Fruit Show has been discontinued, but the Autumn Show will be held as usual. This decision had been reached in view of the lack of interest displayed by growers of Apples and Pears in Australia, New Zealand and South Africa.

MEDICINAL VALUE OF PINEAPPLES.

It has been found that canned Pineapple is rich in vitamins A, B, C, D and G, and is consequently of nutritional value. This popular fruit may be extensively used by doctors and dentists in their fight against pyorrhoea. Pineapple has proved valuable in combating beri-beri disease.

Thrips Investigation Yields Important Results.

Plague of Thrips Can Now be Forecast. -:- Successful Experiments with Repellants.

(By Dr. James Davidson, Head, Department of Entomology, and in charge Thrips Investigation, Waite Research Institute, Adelaide.)

ONE IMPORTANT ASPECT of epidemics of thrips in past years, is the sudden way in which the plagues developed, without any previous warning. It has now been established, by means of systematic observations and experiment, that these plague infestations are definitely associated with particular weather conditions during the plague years.

An account of the organisation of the research work, which is being carried on in relation to the thrips problem, was given in the Journal of the C.S.I.R., in October, 1933 (Vol. 34, No. 10). In addition, the progress made during the first year of the investigations was outlined. A second annual report will appear in October next.

The Apple thrips, or "plague thrips," as it may be called, may be found throughout the year in the southern portions of Victoria and South Australia; but the numbers vary considerably according to the period of the year. There is generally an increase in the numbers in autumn, which may be referred to as the "autumn rise." The number decreases as winter sets in, when the thrips may be scarce to absent. Owing to the low temperatures they develop very slowly. With the warmer days of early spring there is an increase in numbers, which may be referred to as the "first spring rise." This is followed by a further marked increase in numbers, "the second spring rise." **It is the "second spring rise" which is vitally important to the Apple grower. If it coincides with October, the period when Apples are blossoming, and the numbers of thrips are large, the blossoms may be considerably damaged.**

The numbers of thrips present during the second spring rise depend upon the numbers in the previous autumn rise, the survival rate during the winter, and the numbers of thrips present in the first spring rise. The weather in the spring months finally determines the date of the occurrence of the second (critical) spring rise, and the number of thrips which are present.

This aspect of the investigations has reached a stage which makes it reasonable to hope, that growers may be warned beforehand of impending plague infestations of thrips, where the necessary information is available.

How has this knowledge been acquired? In the first place, it was necessary to make a study of the effect of the individual factors of climate upon the behaviour of the thrips. They were reared in the laboratory in artificial climates, the individual factors of which (e.g., temperature and humidity) were capable of being varied at the will of the investigator. Here is a sample of a few of the facts which have been brought to light by such experimentation.

Thrips imaginis ceases to develop (i.e., begins to hibernate) when the temperature falls below about 48 degrees F. It develops much more rapidly at high temperatures than at low. An egg laid at the beginning of winter would take about three months to become an adult, whereas one laid in November might take only a fortnight. The pupae of **Thrips imaginis** cannot survive in soil containing much less than 12 per cent. of water. One female has been known to lay as many as 20 eggs in one day, and 500 eggs during her whole lifetime. Very few eggs are laid unless the female thrips can gain access to pollen.

Dr. Davidson and his capable staff are right on the tracks of the devastating thrips.

The importance of this work to Australia cannot be overestimated.

Careful observations show that a thrips plague can now be forecast.

Good work has been done with securing suitable repellants — to keep the pests away till the blossoms set.

From a sufficiently large range of such laboratory experiments it is possible to form a fairly reliable estimate of the effect of the various conditions actually experienced by the insects in the field. Hence it is hoped that eventually it will be possible, by studying seasonal weather conditions and interpreting them in the light of a detailed knowledge of the biology of the insect, to predict the approximate abundance of thrips to be expected during the flowering period of the Apple and of other fruits and flowers affected.

Forecasting Thrips Plague.

In Victoria this aspect of the work has been considerably advanced by Mr. H. G. Andrewartha, and Miss H. V. Steele.

Growers are Assisting.

From the beginning of the investigation, much valued and helpful co-operation has been forthcoming from growers in different parts of the State. Mr. Rouse, of Kalorama, Mr. F. Pyke, of Ringwood, and Mr. Dominie, of Park Orchards, all very kindly made available facilities for field work on their properties. In addition, Mr. Rouse has assisted the investigation by keeping meteorological records and by forwarding samples of flowers regularly to the laboratory. Mr. Kerr, of Tyabb, has been kind enough to keep meteorological records and to assist generally with field observations. Mr. Hill, of Warragul, Mr. Hughes, of Quantong, and Mr. H. Ford, of Harcourt, also assisted in a survey which was conducted of the thrips population of more outlying orchard districts.

In South Australia the present position regarding these studies is described by Mr. J. W. Evans in a paper, which will appear in the next issue of the Journal of the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research.

A further aspect of the investigation has been a general study of the common species of flower-inhabiting thrips, so that the pest thrips may be readily recognised, and confusion avoided. This is of particular importance, since the common gum blossom thrips (**Isoneurothrips australis**) frequently occurs in large numbers in early stone fruit blossom. Its presence has often led to needless alarm, which could have been avoided had its identity been properly understood.

Miss Steele has made good progress in her studies of the more important species of thrips. It is expected that this will be ready for publication in June; it will serve as a helpful and useful guide to our common economic species.

The Value of Repellants.

The other fundamental question to which an answer is required is: "Can a fruit crop be efficiently protected by the application of a repellent in the form of a spray or dust?" The results so far obtained

are distinctly promising,

and it looks as if this question eventually will be answered in the affirmative. So far, the most promising results have been obtained with dusts containing either pyrethrum or derris; however, there are indications that it may be possible to discover a wet spray which will be also effective.

Thrips were not present in sufficient numbers last spring to allow of extensive field experiments being made in Apple orchards. The results from control trees and treated Apple trees, as measured by the number of thrips present, were sometimes inconclusive, due to this factor. The restricted series of experiments carried out have indicated useful lines for experiments next spring.

The significance of the repellant action of insecticides against the Apple thrips was emphasised in the annual report referred to above.

The dust, or spray, should retain its toxic or repellent action for at least two

days after application, so as to safeguard the blossoms against the thrips.

In this respect, the work of Mr. W. H. Wheeler, chemist, assisting with the insecticide aspect of the problem of thrips control, is of considerable practical importance. A short paper by Mr. Wheeler, dealing with the toxicity of certain dusts used in the experiments, will shortly appear.

[A Reminder.—Funds are still necessary to complete the work of the thrips investigations. Readers are asked to forward contributions to the Secretary, Thrips Investigation League, Box 1944, G.P.O., Melbourne.]

A Profitable Sideline.

Good money is to be earned in the country by the snaring of water rats. Farmers and others living near rivers, swamps or large dams will have no trouble in seeing traces of these little animals, the skins of which are much sought after by manufacturing furriers to-day. They bring high prices right through the year.

Water rats frequent old rabbit burrows. Many ways have been devised in trapping. The jam tin snare is one of the best; make a cross-cut at the top of a jam tin and press the four corners in; place a piece of meat inside the tin; the tin should then be wired and pinned to the ground. When the rat pokes its head in to get at the meat the points of the four corners which have been pressed in prevent it from withdrawing its head. The method of skinning and drying should be the same as a rabbit, that is it should be gloved. Never cut up the belly, as this method is not correct, and lowers the value of your skins. Snares may be set in the afternoon, and visited to take the catch in the early hours of the morning.

Care should be taken to see that the skins are thoroughly dried before packing for transit or storing, otherwise they may arrive in a damaged condition.

Messrs. SLATTER & CO., of Nicholas Building, Swanston Street, Melbourne, will purchase these skins in any quantity, and pay top market price. On receipt of a parcel, they grade the pelts, and forward you a cheque by return mail. This firm are also buyers of other skins, and will always be pleased to receive consignments of same from the country.

FOR OUR LADY READERS ONLY.

No Mere Man Must Read This.

Dark Doings on the M.I.A.

As it is certain no mere man will read this paragraph, girls, we can have a heart to heart talk! That's right.

When Eve got hungry, oh, so long ago, the cause of her naughtiness was an Apple, so we are told, but, girls, of all the fruits in these days of grace to cause trouble with, why Quinces? Have they more vitamins? Are they good missiles, ripe or overripe?

You Murrumbidgee girls know all about it, but what about the girls at Ardmona, and Harcourt and other places where Quinces grow? Are you in favor of a board of control for Quinces, or a board of control for motorists?

Here's the story. One dark night, some girls on the M.I.A. felt the urge in their souls for Quinces. Not Peaches, Watermelons or Tomatoes, mind you, only Quinces. Being a warm night, they wore just—oh, well, we won't go into that. Well, they got through the fence and secured these delectable Quinces, and were just making good their escape, when honk! honk!! The owner, who had been at a meeting, caught sight of some graceful figures moving off.

Being a brave man, he drove straight up and turned his headlights full on to the fugitives. Shall we draw the veil? No, girls, duty compels us to continue. The girls, in order to carry as many Quinces as possible, were carrying them in their upturned skirts, and, being a warm night, as we just mentioned, ander-er, dash it all, you know what I mean. Anyhow who wears too much on a hot night?

Oh, dear, you could have heard the screams as far off as Wooloomooloo. the poor darlings suddenly felt tired, sat down and cried. Did that settler try to comfort them. No, certainly not. He was made of sterner stuff, a real heman. Girls, he thundered, "Why are you pinching my fruit? Now do you want to be pinched? I've a mind to drive you before the magistrate right away."

But his sternness melted at their forlornness, and, as he considered them sufficiently punished, he drove off. Now, girls, you know why your Murrumbidgee sisters wept, don't you?

It was because their hats weren't on straight.

GAS STORAGE OF APPLES.

Carbon Monoxide Successful.

A recent report from London states that gas-stored Apples, displayed at the Royal Horticultural Society's show, at London in mid-April, created much attention. These Apples had been kept in a chamber filled with carbon monoxide. "Appearance and flavor perfect, superior to cold-stored Apples," was the report.

ELECTRIC INSECT DESTROYER.

A new method of combating the codlin moth is discussed in the "Popular Mechanic" of March. It may be described as a system of colors, the light being surrounded by a cage of electrified wires closely spaced. When the insects fly towards the light they are electrocuted by the wire. Differing colors have varied degrees of attractiveness to insects. Codlin moths are attracted by blue color.

C. A. NOBELIUS & SONS PTY. LTD.

Messrs. C. A. Nobelius & Sons Pty. Ltd., nurserymen, of the Gembrook Nurseries, Emerald, Victoria, have issued their 1934 catalogue of fruit and ornamental trees, shrubs and conifers. A feature of the catalogue is the colored plates showing the following varieties of Apples:—Stayman Winesap, Red Statesman, Gravenstein, and Delicious.

Other illustrations include budding Cherries at the Gembrook Nurseries, portion of block of 50,000 Peach stocks for budding, Hazel nut, ornamental section showing recently erected bushhouse, Lombardy Poplars, and others.

Under the heading: "A Few Hints to Amateur Planters," is included some helpful information.

Some of the varieties of Pears noted were Bartlett, B. Bosc, Glou Morceau, W. Cole, W. Nelis, Keiffer's, Packham's Triumph, Black Achan, and others. Those desiring copies of this valuable catalogue, should apply as early as possible.

CLEAN,
HEALTHY,
WELL GROWN
FIBROUS ROOTED
TRUE TO NAME,
PROLIFIC BEARERS.

Order Now from—

GOODMAN'S CENTENARY CATALOG

This Book will be mailed free. A splendid production—and a real guide to Fruit Growers, giving valuable information regarding all varieties of Fruit Trees, Small Fruits, Vines, etc., etc. Write to-day for your copy.

Splendid stocks available for 1934 Planting, include Apples, Pears, Plums, Peaches, Cherries, Apricots, and all Deciduous and Citrus Trees, Berry Fruits, etc. Expert Packing and prompt despatch to any address.

C. J. GOODMAN PICNIC POINT NURSERIES **BAIRNSDALE, Vic.**

MID-MURRAY NOTES

Seasonal Conditions Reviewed — Why a Drop of 25 per cent. in Sultanas and Currants?

TOO MUCH IRRIGATION WATER HARMFUL — IRRIGATION AND SALT PROBLEMS — IMPORTANCE OF COVER CROPS, CEREALS OF LEGUMES? — MANURES AND EFFECT ON BIENNIAL CROPPING — EFFECT OF SUNLIGHT ON BUDS — DORADILLO GRAPE PROBLEMS — SULTANA CLASSIFICATION AND NEED FOR EDUCATION.

(By Our Special Correspondent.)

Renmark (April 17, 1934).

NOW THAT MOST of the Sultanas and Currants have been harvested, it is possible to make an estimate of the years' crop, and also to review the seasonal conditions. The first irrigation came in August, well before bud burst, which helped to create favorable conditions at the time when the sap commenced to rise. Bud burst was even, and fruiting buds plentiful on properly nourished vines, but in spite of this we find sundry reasons for a 20 to 25 per cent. drop in crop on last year's tonnage in Currants and Sultanas, while Gordos have cropped heavier than last year for some inexplicable reason.

In the early stages of growth thrips made their appearance in large numbers, but no appreciable damage to vines followed; in fact, it is doubtful whether this insect causes much damage to vine flowers at any time, although their appearance in large numbers caused a mild "flutter" among growers at the time.

Soon after setting time (in November) we experienced warmer days and severely cold nights, with such a wide range of temperatures as to cause a considerable shedding of young Sultana berries. This condition is known as Coulure, and has only been met with on a few occasions since the irrigation settlements started, over 40 years ago, While Coulure may have been the chief cause of a drop in tonnage, the failure of Currants to become properly sugared is a contributing factor in fruit drying out comparatively light, and a shortage consequently followed.

In the Berri areas

a delayed irrigation

at midsummer caused a good deal of loss through the land drying out at a critical stage in the development of the fruit. The weather throughout March in our areas was intensely hot, and although this greatly assisted drying operations, it also spoiled the color of late-dipped Sultanas through sun scorch.

On the whole, however, the quality has been high, our areas having entirely missed the monsoonal disturbances which caused a good deal of rain damage in our sister States.

It is pleasing to note that during the past irrigation season, growers have been seized with the importance of keeping an eye on the possibility of a high water table.

Less irrigation water

has been used on our lighter types of soil, and in many places where a water table has been established which is likely to be harmful, patches of Lucerne have been planted to act as a de-watering agent. This practice has been advocated by Professor Prescott in lectures given during the year, following the success at the Griffith Experimental Farm, under the guidance of Mr. Eric West.

On the whole, the irrigationist is waking up to practical application of scientific methods of applying water, and is eager for information regarding ridding his land of surplus soil water.

It is realised that waterlogging will inevitably follow the old, wasteful practice of indiscriminate irrigation, and there has been an appreciable interest taken in these matters in the past 12 months. Furthermore, the incidence

of salt concentration

is so much wrapped up in our irrigation practices that our efforts are to a great extent directed in minimising this danger. This can be done by lessening the amount of water used on porus soils, and spacing furrows at varying distances on stiffer soils. Salt moves both vertically and laterally on a face, and moves before the thrust of irrigation water. Much success has been met with by irrigating under the vines right throughout the season, thereby pushing the salt away from the feeding roots close to the main stem.

The

cover crop irrigation

commenced here on April 4 at a nominal charge of 5/- per acre. This is being done with the purpose of allowing every grower to carry out this necessary work.

Within the last few years the growing of a cover crop has increased to a great extent, and is fast becoming established as a regular routine practice; in fact, the question is now raised whether it is more profitable to grow a cereal such as barley or rye for organic bulk matter, and apply nitrogen in an artificial form, or grow legumes, which gives both organic matter and nitrogen. Unless legumes are planted early they mature too late, and a good deal of harm can be done, and has been done, last year, in this locality, by allowing beans to grow so late in the season that they have competed with vines for soil moisture, much to the detriment of the vines for the season.

Cereals, on the other hand, mature early, and can be ploughed under, and become incorporated in the soil long before bud burst. In this matter the individual will have to be his own experimenter, as there are no experiments of this kind, to my knowledge, being carried out, but the theory of cereals as organic matter producers has the blessing of Mr. W. J. Spafford (Deputy Director of Agriculture).

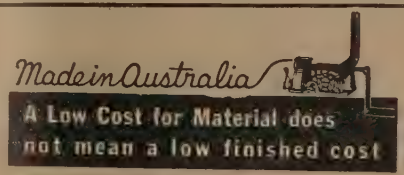
Now that the harvest is far enough to completion to make comparisons with crop returns, once again I am able to report that the greatest success has been obtained by growing

heavy crops of green manure.

supplementing this with heavy dressings of superphosphate, with the addition of manures carrying a percentage of nitrogen. In most instances, crops are down in yield this year, but those who have applied heavy dressings of manures have maintained, and, in some instances increased, their crops on last year's returns.

After having kept close touch with various growers, and from my own personal experience, I am convinced that biennial cropping of vines is chiefly the outcome of physical weakness, rather than the oft attributed cause of "seasonal conditions."

It is easier to blame "seasonal conditions" than having to admit that we have failed to supply our vines with sufficient nourishment to both mature the growing crop and mature sufficient, fruitful buds for the next year. As the action of sunlight is a strong contributing factor in the maturation of fruitful buds, this year should prove one of exceptional development in this way, for the months of December, January, February and March have been exceptionally bright, with high temperatures.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The following is by way of comparisons with other years:—

	Average Temperatures 18 Years.	Season 1933-34.	Previous Hottest 1928-29.
Dec.	86.88	87.11	91.16
Jan.	88.45	92.35	82.35
Feb.	88.58	90.42	96.12
Mar.	83.44	90.88	82.58

Doradillo Grapes.

Some time ago the Board of Directors of the Berri Distillery arrived at a decision not to process any Doradillos this season, owing to the accumulated stocks of proof spirit.

As this district produces between six and seven thousand tons of this variety, it became a matter of some concern to the growers to find an outlet for these Grapes. It is understood, however, that several firms made private contracts with growers to accept a certain amount of these Grapes.

Later on the Distillery board evolved a scheme for treating the remainder under separate arrangement with growers, which proved quite acceptable. The Grapes will now be all utilised, and deliveries commenced yesterday, April 16.

Classifying Sultana Types.

A good deal of confusion and dissatisfaction arises every year among growers, regarding classing of Sultanas in particular. This confusion can to a great extent be modified in adopting a policy of educating the grower up to a knowledge of what is required by the overseas trade in color types. At the present time the classers and inspectors and shed managers are alone conversant with this matter, which is of such vital importance to the whole industry. Growers should be called together in every fruit-drying centre, and a range of samples displayed. This should be followed by an address by some authoritative person, conversant with dipping procedures, and with a knowledge of market values of every shade of fruit produced. By doing this periodically growers would gradually acquire a working knowledge of all types now packed, which would simplify the work of blending types before packing. This, I consider, one of the most important items for future consideration, and it is not too late to commence on the work this year.—Nemo.

DORADILLO GRAPE GROWERS.

Federal Grant of £20,000.

Mr. McIntosh, the Minister for Irrigation in South Australia, recently announced that he has received intimation that the Federal Government would make £20,000, as promised, available to the growers with a surplus of Doradillo vines who were desirous of uprooting or grafting them to other varieties.

The Minister may refuse to grant any concession, if, in his opinion, the applicant is not deserving of assistance.

Irrigation waters for horticultural purposes in South Australia recently formed the subject of a valued broadcast talk by Mr. George Quinn, Chief Horticultural Instructor, S.A. Dept. of Agriculture.

Mr. H. H. Orchard Now Horticultural Instructor for Southern Districts.

Mr. H. H. Orchard has taken up his duties as Horticultural Inspector in succession to Mr. C. H. Beaumont, who recently retired. Mr. Orchard was Assistant Orchardist at the Pompoota Training Farm, and afterward he took charge of the orchard at the Kybybolite Experimental Farm. He then held the office of Phylloxera Inspector, and has worked in the South-east as Horticultural Inspector for over 13 years. He is a graduate of the Roseworthy Agricultural College. Growers are looking forward to good service from this experienced officer.

EXCESS BANANA PRODUCTION.

Warning Against Increased Plantings Issued by N.S.W. Minister for Agriculture.

OWING TO THE SERIOUS position of Banana growers, because of excess production, the N.S.W. Minister for Agriculture (Mr. Main) has issued a warning against extension of Banana planting in N.S.W. The Minister states that endeavors are being made to secure capital for further plantings, particularly on the North Coast of N.S.W.: it was his public duty to warn the public.

Mr. Main states that of the 20,000 acres under Bananas, 12,000 acres are at the production stage, and the balance should be bearing in 1935, when the estimated yield was for 1,000,000 tropical cases.

The area under Bananas in Queensland was about similar, giving an area of 40,000 acres for the two States, against 25,000 acres (Queensland 20,000 and N.S.W. 5,000 acres) in the peak year of 1922.

The Fruitgrowers' Federation of N.S.W. is actively supporting the policy of the Minister for Agriculture.

The Department of Agriculture believes that with increased plantings, the returns by growers would be much less than to-day's prices. Further, it is believed that practically all the first-class land on the North Coast has been planted, and permission from the Department is necessary before additional plantings can be made.

The co-operation of the Forestry Commission and the Dept. of Lands, has been secured to prevent further land for Banana growing being made available for the present.

Queensland Moving, Too!

The Minister further states that according to advices received, he understands that the Banana Industry Protection League of Queensland, proposes to appeal to Banana growers in Queensland to curtail plantings at least for the next year or two.

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Walnut Culture.

Important Paper-shell Varieties.

Left: Graft of Freshford Gem Walnut on 4-year-old stock of Californian Black. 32 nuts first year after grafting. Right: Budded Freshford Gem Walnut carrying nuts first year after planting.

Mr. L. J. Wicks, nurseryman and fruitgrower, of Highbury East, South Australia, visited Victoria during April to attend Garden Week. As a member of the Executive of the S.A. Fruitgrowers' and Market Gardeners' Association, Mr. Wicks also enquired into various phases of marketing South Australian produce in Melbourne.

Mr. Wicks has specialised in the production of young Walnut trees. Although producing a large stock of budded trees this year the demand has been greater than the supply. A feature of young trees produced by Mr. Wicks is that they are budded to definite varieties. These varieties include Wilson's Wonder, Freshford Gem, Franquette and Kelvin.

Mr. Wicks stated that he recently visited Mr. Possingham's property at Joanna, near Naracoorte, South Australia, where he inspected the original Kelvin Walnut tree, which had a spread of 70 ft., and is 70ft. high. This season the tree will produce from 3 to 4 cwt. This is a light crop as the normal production is around ¼ ton. It is a paper-shelled variety and is growing on the property planted out many years ago by the late Robert McEwin.

Freshford Gem is probably a seedling from the same parent tree.

The stock used by Mr. Wicks is Californian Black, a hybrid between the Persian type and Californian Black.

The whole process of producing budded Walnut trees is a highly specialised one. In fact, amongst propagators the Walnut is considered to be one of the most difficult trees to graft.

Mr. Wicks is an experienced nurseryman and is to be congratulated on the success which has attended his efforts.

APRICOT KERNELS.

During the last six months, many tons of Apricot kernels have been exported to England and Europe, where they have been used for the manufacture of high explosive and cosmetics. Five tons were shipped on the steamer "Hurunui," which left Melbourne for London last month. It is expected that regular shipments will be made as supplies are available, as an assured market at good prices for the kernels has been procured abroad.

BANANA BEETLE BORER.

Mr. J. A. Weddell (Assistant Entomologist of the Queensland Department of Agriculture), emphasises that new growers entering into the Banana industry should start off with clean suckers, and suggests that the source of the suckers should be a bettle-free plantation or one with only a slight infestation in which control measures have been carried out consistently.

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QUEENSLAND PINES IN SYDNEY.

Damage by Water Blister.

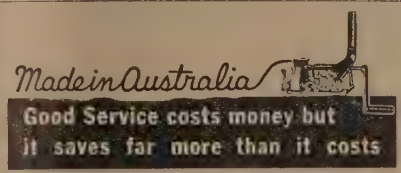
Despite careful cultural attention, water blister is still a serious trouble with Pineapples. The wastage is so great that it is an important factor in deciding the price which purchasers can pay. Unless the fruit be consumed practically at once, it becomes worthless.

INCREASING GRAPE EXPORT.

Mr. H. Manual (viticultural expert, N.S.W. Department of Agriculture) says that with the Grape trade on the increase, every precaution should be taken, not only by growers and packers, but also by shippers, to foster it. Only good, sound and mature fruit should be shipped, and special attention given to packing and labelling. The Ohanez Grape was best for export. Granulated cork makes the best packing.

THE CANADIAN CASE.

At the end of March, Mr. W. L. Gregory, of the Gerrard Wire Tying Machines Co. Ltd., gave a demonstration at the Westralian Farmers, Bridgetown, W.A., of packing a Canadian case by the square pack. In the opinion of local growers, the neat white Canadian case showed up more than favorably as compared with karri cases.



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THE . . . Market Grower

Vegetable Culture ∴ New Varieties ∴ Tomato Notes ∴ Mushroom Culture ∴ Vegetable Cold Storage

MARKET GARDENING.

NEW AND IMPROVED VARIETIES of vegetables are constantly being brought forward. That it would be to the advantage of market gardeners to grow these improved types is the considered opinion of Mr. Wm. W. C. Carter, of Murrumbeena, Victoria, who is himself a successful hybridist.

Mr. Carter pays a tribute to plant breeders in Britain, America, and other parts of the world, where new and improved varieties and strains are being created. These varieties, after being tested under Australian conditions, are released to commercial vegetable growers with absolute confidence.

Speaking of Beans, Mr. Carter recommends the Runner Bean, "Scarlet Emperor," which produces pods 14 to 16 inches in length. This Bean was sent out from the well-known firm of Carter's, Range Park, London. In climates similar to Melbourne, the seed should be sown in September, and the crop comes in

just before Christmas

in time for the profitable Christmas market. In the warmer areas the seed could be sown earlier, while for Tasmania, the sowing time would probably be two weeks later.

The trouble with sowing Canadian Wonder for early crops was that it was subject to the devastating wilt.

The Onion "Ailsa Craig" should be much more largely grown. "Ailsa Craig" is a large, globe-shaped Onion, with a good skin, fine texture and excellent for salads or cooking, and as mild as "Odorless." A mid-season variety, earlier and of better keeping quality than Golden Globe.

Market gardeners were now growing more of the Triamble Pumpkin, although it was some time before they would take on the growing of this variety. There seemed to be an aversion to trying anything new, yet in Mr. Carter's opinion, the Butterball Pumpkin was one of the best which could be grown.

Regarding Potatoes

the varieties No. 1 Carmen and Up-to-date were used largely for early crops. The early crop Potatoes are those which bring the good prices, up to £25, and even £30 per ton, i.e., during November, but about two weeks later early in December, the price is liable to recede very considerably, at times to £7 per ton.

Mr. Carter states that Potato growers have shown preference for seed Potatoes which were produced in the Romsey district, and would even pay fancy prices for ungraded Potatoes from that area. The wisdom of this practice is questioned, as seed Potatoes produced in the high districts of Gippsland had yielded under test, superior crops to seed Potatoes from Romsey.

The experiment was recently made at a Melbourne district market garden. Seed Potatoes of the same variety were planted, some from Noojee, Gippsland, and the other from Romsey. The Potatoes were planted in adjoining plots, and given equal conditions. Far better crops were gathered from the Noojee-grown seed.

It could be understood that growers did not want seed grown, say, in the swamps of Kooweerup, but it had to be remembered that in the elevated districts of Gippsland there was rich chocolate soil, and the hardy conditions necessary for producing the right type of seed Potato, which when planted elsewhere, would yield excellent results.

PEAS AND BEANS ON MELBOURNE MARKET.

With regard to Peas and Beans for sale at the Melbourne wholesale markets, a well-known trader gave the following hints:—

Peas come from Mildura and Red Cliffs area in September, and within two weeks they come from the Victorian areas — Swan Hill, Barham and thereabouts; then from all parts of the State, including local districts, till late October.

Greenfeast is the main variety—which has a longer pod than the previous Yorkshire Hero. The last brings several shillings per bag less than Greenfeast. The variety English Wonder is also favorably known.

Beans. Canadian Wonder appears to be still the leading variety. The wilt disease has caused heavy reduction of crops, and it is hoped that a wilt-resistant strain will soon be developed. Other varieties, such as Pale Dunn and Felthams Prolific, have also come on the market, but buyers appear to know Canadian Wonder best.

Beans come on to the market in December, and go on until May. Towards the end of winter Beans come from Tweed Heads, N.S.W.

COLD STORAGE OF VEGETABLES.

Some Important Developments.

(By W. J. Williams, F.C.S. (London), Superintendent of Markets, Sydney.)

EXCELLENT RESULTS from the cool storage of vegetables have been obtained in Sydney: details are given by Mr. W. J. Williams, Superintendent of Markets.

Mr. Williams emphasises the necessity for great care to be taken in packing vegetables for the cold store. It is better to pack in crates and boxes than in bags: pre-cooling and post-cooling are of advantage in the process of cold storing vegetables.

Asparagus. As soon as possible after cutting, precool at 50 deg. F. After 24 hours cool store at 33 deg., humidity 85 per cent. Many tests were made with wrapped and unwrapped Asparagus: that placed in celophane paper, and packed in boxes were best.

The flavor of the stored produce was just as good as the fresh-picked sticks. **Asparagus kept splendidly for six weeks wrapped, and five weeks unwrapped.**

Cabbages. Those wrapped kept better than the unwrapped. Temperature 31 deg. F., humidity 85 per cent: wrapped Cabbages lasted in store 10 weeks, unwrapped 6 weeks.

Cauliflowers. Those wrapped kept for 10 weeks, unwrapped 6 weeks.

Cucumbers. Pack in open, paper-lined crates; no necessity to wrap; place in chilling room at 38 deg. F., humidity 85 per cent. Will keep 28 days.

Carrots and Parsnips. Wrap in bags and store at 33 deg. F., humidity 85 per cent. Do not wash prior to storage, else moulds develop. Excellent after two months' storage.

Lettuce. Chill in ante-room at 50 degrees F. for 24 hours, then wrap and pack in boxes, and store at 38 deg. F., humidity 85 per cent. Kept well for four weeks.

Peas and Beans. In two bushel bags at 35 degrees (humidity 85 per cent.). Kept for two weeks: it is far better to place in boxes, when they will store well for four weeks: good air circulation essential.

Rhubarb. Those tied in bundles, wrapped and crated kept best; leave tops on: slight tendency to shrivel on account of loss of moisture; sticks kept

nicely for four weeks at 34 deg. F., humidity 85 per cent.

Turnips. Will keep in bags for five months at 33 deg. F., humidity 85 per cent.: must be whole and sound, as moulds develop on cut or damaged Turnips.

Post-Cooling an Advantage.

Vegetables that are to be placed on the market should be "post-cooled," i.e., kept at 55 deg. F. for two days. Vegetables thus kept better than if taken from cold room out into air temperature.

Quick Freezing System.

This process is largely used in America. Vegetables are frozen hard, and, on being removed, are available only for immediate consumption. This system also applies to fruit, meat and fish, and is capable of being largely developed in Australia.

MARKET GARDENERS' ASSOCIATION.

Useful Activity Displayed.

THE Victorian Market Gardeners' Association is doing good work. Their main activity is in the improving of conditions on the Victoria Market, Melbourne. Cultural addresses are given before members' meetings. Recently, Mr. F. Rae, Curator of the Melbourne Botanic Gardens, gave a valued address on soils.

The President is Mr. H. V. Bennett, Vice-President, Mr. E. A. Le Page; Committee, Messrs. G. Ryan, C. Baker, J. Stocks, C. James, J. Hawke, Les Morris; with Mr. C. C. A. George as Secretary.

* * *

The Market Gardeners' Association is working for a cheaper rate of water. They consider that as wholesale users they should be on a reduced rate.

The present rate is 1/- per thousand; a reduction to 9d. per thousand is desired. Approaches have been made to the Metropolitan Board of Works for reduced water rates, but without success. It is proposel to organise a deputation to the Board and to associate therewith fruitgrowers, nurserymen and flower growers.

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SYDNEY

How to Grow Mushrooms

(By R. Mas.)

THE EXPLANATIONS given in previous articles are brief, and just sufficient to make a start. To explain the actions of all those things which are detrimental to the development of Mushrooms, is quite a long subject. The crop can be protected to a large extent, but conditions can never be made so perfect as to grow Mushrooms 100 per cent. free of detrimental matter. This would be quite impossible.

A book on Mushroom growing, published in U.S.A., says the time is not distant when Mushrooms will be grown on sterilised manure; my answer, is that no one could keep sterilised manure free of moulds and fungus. Sterilised manure is far more subject to contamination than fresh manure. The reader may wonder why we ferment the manure. This is necessary, otherwise the manure, after it has been made into beds, would rise to a temperature of upwards of 100 deg. F., and the spawn perishes at 80 deg. Fahr.

Most of the common moulds and other fungus will always be present in the beds, which the manure obtains from the air. Very few of these fungi or moulds ever attack the fungus we have planted, and which is known as (agaricus campestris). The damage done by foreign fungi is that they absorb nutriment from the beds, which otherwise would be absorbed by agaricus, campestris.

Rarely will two beds made by different persons work the same.

Those are characteristic signs; if when a bed starts cropping the Mushrooms don't grow in clusters, it is an indication that the bed was not made solid enough.

If a bed takes eight weeks to crop, and then Mushrooms appear first on the edges, it indicates that the manure was too wet, and the edges, being more exposed, righted themselves to more suitable conditions, of which the spawn has taken advantage.

It happens sometimes that the top of a Mushroom will crack or split. This is caused by the air being too dry. A Mushroom is 75 per cent. water, of which 50 is absorbed from the air, so that the humidity of the air has to be greater than that one in the Mushroom, otherwise the air will suck from the Mushroom, in which case the Mushroom would perish, and no further Mushrooms would appear until the air contained no less than 75 per cent. humidity. Better still! When the humidity of the air is upwards to 100 per cent.—

It is the moisture in the air that induces the Mushroom to sprout up, and not the warmth of the sun, as has been the belief.

All the professional growers throughout the world know that winter is the best time to grow Mushrooms. Some of the growers in U.S.A. make use of a refrigerator plant during the summer months. An outdoor bed, if covered with straw, and bags on top of the straw will crop very nicely, even if there was one inch of snow on top of the bags.

Another

very old belief

that Mushrooms should be cut is certainly a very undesirable practice, as the trunk of the Mushroom left in the bed will rot, and with all certainty, start with a disease, therefore, Mushrooms have to be pulled, and the hole made on the bed by its removal is to be covered with clean soil.

[When making enquiries through the post to the writer, please send a stamped, addressed, envelope.]

(To be Continued.)

NEW TOMATO VARIETY.

A new Tomato variety, named "Stromboli," is creating much attention. It was developed by a grower in the Frankston (Vic.) area. Stromboli is conical, vermilion shade, smooth, and very attractive: bears 30 Tomatoes on a bunch: 8 to 10 Tomatoes go to the pound: ideal for dessert. Will be largely grown commercially on Mornington Peninsula.

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Seed Bean Weevil.

Measures for Control.

THE ATTENTION OF GROWERS of seed Beans, a considerable quantity of which will probably be produced in New South Wales this year, is drawn to the following departmental directions for control of the Bean weevil:—

Bean weevils (Bruchidae) are important pests of Peas and Beans in almost every country where these crops are grown. Although several species are known to attack Beans and Peas, the species usually met with in Beans is the common Bean weevil (Bruchus obtectus).

The adults of this species may live as long as nine weeks, but the average is about two during the active season. Over 200 eggs may be laid by a single female, The eggs hatch in from five to twenty days according to the seasonal temperature. The larvae or grubs become mature in from eleven to forty-two days, and the length of the pupal stage is from five to eighteen days. Thus the complete life cycle of the insect from the laying of the egg to the emergence of the adult is from twenty-one to eighty days according to seasonal conditions.

How the Beans are Infested.

The initial infestation of the Beans occurs in the field by beetles flying from infested stores nearby or from stacks of dried stalks and waste Beans left in the field from the previous season. The weevils lay their eggs on the pods or in cracks that develop in the drying of the pods. The minute grubs enter the seed, where they develop. After the Beans are harvested the beetles continue to develop in the store, many generations being produced.

In stored seed the small whitish eggs are laid directly on the seed and the minute grubs enter immediately beneath the seed. Thus, while the seed when harvested may show little evidence of being infested, seed that is kept in store for any length of time may be badly damaged. In such cases the percentage of viable seed may be considerably reduced or the sample rendered worthless.

Control.

Destruction of Breeding Places.—After the crop has been harvested all plants and waste pods should be cleaned up and burnt and not heaped up in the field. Volunteer plants should not be allowed to grow. Storage houses should be thoroughly cleaned up and all waste Beans destroyed.

Rapid Handling of the Crop.—The seed should be thrashed and bagged as soon after harvesting as possible and disposed of as quickly as possible. Carry-over seed should be watched, and if infested seeds are noticed it should be fumigated as described below. Heating of the bags is evidence of weevil infestation. Do not store seed in the pods.

Beans kept for seed should be fumigated if necessary, and preferably stored in a tightly-fitted cask with a 2-in. layer of air-slaked lime placed on the top. Flaked napthaline mixed thoroughly throughout the seed at the rate of 1 oz. per bushel will protect slightly injured seed from further damage, but must be renewed when it has evaporated.

Fumigation.—Fumigation with carbon bisulphide or hydrocyanic acid gas will kill the weevils, but the former is preferred as being less dangerous and more easily carried out by the grower. The grain should be placed in a gas-tight bin, room or tank, and the carbon bisulphide poured on to the top of the seed or on to a bag, and the receptacle then tightly sealed. Five pounds (about 3 pints) should be used for each 1,000 cubic feet of space in the fumigating chamber, independent of the amount of seed. Carbon bisulphide is highly inflammable and care should be exercised in handling. Fumigate the seed for twenty-four hours, then allow the gas to escape.

There are other means of killing weevils in the seed, but the above is the most convenient for the grower.

In any district where Beans are grown community effort is essential, particularly in cleaning up and destroying waste plants and pods and in preventing storage houses from being centres of infestation for the new crop.

Pea Weevil (Bruchus pisorum)

Trouble in Western Australia.

Mr. L. J. Newman, F.R.E.S., Government Entomologist, writing in the W.A. Journal of Agriculture, states that in visting various centres in the south-west during October, there was ample evidence of the presence of this pest in the field Pea crops.

The eggs, which are oval, yellow bodies, are glued to the exterior of the young Pea pods. They are generally deposited singly. As many as 28 eggs were counted on a single Pea pod. These eggs are easily observed by the naked eye. Fortunately, this pest can be controlled by fumigation, but, unless those concerned take a co-operative interest in the work of suppressing this weevil, considerable losses will follow and the pest will become more widespread.

With the object of preventing the spread of this pest per the sale of infested seed, an Order of Council was gazetted on April 28, 1933. This places the onus on the seller of the seed to see that the conditions, as set out in the Order, are carried out. The regulation now reads.—48B. No person shall sell, supply, distribute, deliver, or dispose of any field Peas (whether produced within or imported into Western Australia) to any other person unless and until such field Peas have been fumigated with carbon-bi-sulphide in such manner as effectively to render the same free from the disease of Pea Weevil (Bruchus pisorum).

Improving Onion Yields.

Onion manurial and variety trials were conducted in the chief Onion growing districts of New South Wales during the 1933 season.

Mr. P. Morandini, Dubbo; Mr. W. Cole, Wellington; Mr. A. Chater, Gilgandra; Messrs. Wood Bros., Turrawan; and Mr. A. McKimm, Bolwarra, co-operated with the Department in conducting the experiments.

A variety trial was conducted at Turrawan for the first time, while both variety and manurial trials were carried out at Dubbo, Wellington, and Gilgandra.

As has been the experience of the N.S.W. Department of Agriculture in previous years, the various manurial applications were profitable under the conditions.

The phenomenal yield of 32 tons per acre was returned by Mr. McKimm's selection of Hunter River Brown Spanish, which is noted for its high yielding ability under Western conditions, while a selection of the same variety grown by Mr. Redgrove, and a red variety grown by Mr. W. Smith, of Swanreach, gave yields of over 28 tons per acre in the same trial.

The newer varieties, New King and White Pearl, showed distinct promise. The latter out-yielded the Hunter River White, but is of a slightly coarser variety. The New King, although not an outstanding heavy yielder, is a fairly early variety, maturing about the same time as the Hunter River White and Maitland White varieties. Early Barletta was outstanding in the early flat varieties tested. The growers are advised to grow their own seed where possible and not to use seed of unknown quality.

As well as being prepared to give special care and attention to the selection and growing of bulbs, the grower must possess the knowledge of the industry's requirements.—"N.S.W. Agric. Gazette."

VICTORIA — Association Reports . . . Items of Interest

Progressive East Burwood

Apples and Pears Specialised ∴ Local, Interstate and Export Marketing
Is Arsenate of Lead Losing its Efficiency?
Pollination and Re-working Varieties.

(*By Our Travelling Representative*)

ON THE EASTERN SIDE of Melbourne, the fruitgrowing industry has been developed extensively. There are the Doncaster, Templestowe, Ringwood, and Croydon districts extending to Lilydale and further on to the hill country to the orchards and berry gardens of the Dandenong Ranges. In another direction we come to the East Burwood district, and it is this pleasant part of the country which I recently visited, meeting the growers and discussing with them their problems and prospects.

The East Burwood district is certainly situated in charming surroundings: the soil and climatic conditions are eminently suitable for the growing of fruit, particularly Apples and Pears. The growers are progressive, and they are working in good heart, despite the extraordinary difficulties of the past few years.

* * *

As regards the orchards, the following brief descriptions will be found of interest.

Mr. V. L. Fankhauser has 40 acres under cultivation, of which 31 are in bearing. In an endeavor to control fungoid, he uses lime sulphur for preblossom sprays at a space of five days each. Of his orchard, 17 acres are devoted to Apples, the main varieties being as follow: the average yield in cases being shown in brackets:—Jonathan (1,200-1,500), Stewarts (900-1,200), Granny Smith (400-600), Yates (500-800), and Rome Beauty (900-1,200). Last season he exported 1,400 cases of Apples, but as the shipment was not successful, he decided not to export this year. Pears occupy 23 acres, of which the following are the lines chiefly grown:—Packham, Beurre Bosc, and a few Williams. He exports every year between 1,000 and 1,800 cases of Pears.

Mr. J. B. M. Fankhauser has 22 acres of orchard, of which 16 are in bearing. Of these 12 acres are devoted to Pears, the main varieties being Bosc, Howell, Packham, Josephine and Williams. Last year 500 cases were exported, this year he expects to ship 750 cases overseas. Of the Apples, the main varieties are Jonathan, Stewarts, Yates, Romes and Five Crown. For pollination purposes, Mr. Fankhauser finds that by having two rows of Jonathans, then two rows of Stewarts, he gets full crops. Manuring is attended to by giving trees superphosphate, blood and bone, also potash.

Mr. T. E. Parker's orchard of 18 acres is equally divided between Apples and Pears. In the Apples the main variety is Granny Smith, others include Jonathan, Stewarts, Yates, and Stayman's Winesap. For black spot control, Bordeaux mixture is used with practically no scorch at 6:6:50, adding a small quantity of oil.

Mr. Parker raises a point as to the effectiveness of arsenate of lead for the control of codlin moth. He states that the moths seem to have developed immunity or resistance to arsenate of lead, and though spraying is most carefully attended to, the pest is on the increase.

Mr. Parker has had success with Pear export, the varieties being Williams, Howells, Packhams (extensively), Josephine and Winter Nelis.

Of Mr. F. M. Andersons' 24 acres, 16 are under orchard, of which 12 are in bearing. He is exporting 300 cases of Pears this season, the main varieties being Packhams, Howells, Keiffer, Josephine, and Bosc. He has the standard run of Apple varieties, and for pollination purposes, grafts scions of Granny Smiths on to Jonathans. Six sprayings are given during the season, two of which are at the pre-blossom stage.

Mr. S. Fankhauser has a 30-acre orchard of Apples and Pears, 20 being in bearing. The varieties are the familiar ones for local and export trade.

Mr. F. W. Mullens' 17 acre orchard is half Apples and half Pears. The trees are from 15 to 35 years old, and the crop has been 3,000 to 4,000 cases each season. For pollination purposes, Jonathans are inter-planted with Stewarts, also Granny Smiths are grafted on Jonathans. Two sprayings with Bordeaux 6:4:50 are made before blossom and two at half strength, when the fruit has set.

Messrs. John Stevens and Son have a 37 acre orchard, of which 32 acres are in bearing. Of particular interest was a patch of three acres of Lemons from which over 5,000 cases have been harvested during the last three years. On this Lemon patch, large quantities of stable manure have been applied each season, and the Lemon trees are in good heart. The owner is proud of this Lemon crop and considers it to be one of the best in the State. In spraying the Apple and Pear trees, however, spray of arsenate of lead, with the addition of 6 ozs. of bluestone and ½ gallon of white oil to every hundred gallons is used. Six sprayings are given and one with Bordeaux, black spot being completely under control. The main varieties of Pears are Packhams, Bosc, Winter Cole, Madam Cole, Winter Nelis, Williams and Howells. Apples include Jonathan,

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Stewarts, Granny Smiths, etc. For pollination, Mr. Stevens has put in grafts of both Granny Smith and Rokewood in every Jonathan tree. Among the trees, shallow ploughings are given, the deepest being 4 inches.

Of Mr. E. C. Fankhauser's 17 acres, seven are planted with Pears and seven with Apples. He showed me a row of trees which had been refurnished or worked-over a year ago and he has had a half-case yield of fruit per tree this year. Instead of cutting down to the butt, under the old system, he has worked

on the refurnishing system

described in the "Fruit World," leaving the main limb and refurnishing with a chisel graft. Mr. Fankhauser pointed out the care necessary in attending to the details of this work of refurnishing.

He understood that some orchardists had not been successful with the method, the reason for which he attributed to the use of petroleum wax, which, when the hot weather came, melted and seeped into the graft, thus preventing successful union.

Mr. Fankhauser recommends the use of Colas, which he found gave him 90 per cent. success. Another reason for the non-success was probably due to the operator making a few ineffectual cuts instead of making two decisive cuts, thus making all the difference between a good graft and a non-successful one. When grafting is first done, a small amount of growth is left at the top of each limb, so as to draw the sap, and when the tree responds with a little growth, these upper growths are removed. I was also interested to see Mr. Fankhauser's method of bridge grafting. This was on Gravenstein trees affected by the crinkle. This crinkle was in the butt of the tree, and appeared to have a pinching effect which stopped the free flow of sap.

To overcome the difficulty he used a branch below the crinkle, grafting it into the butt of the tree above the crinkle. The union was successful, the crinkle did not develop any further. That there was evidently a free flow of sap was evidenced by the satisfactory crop the tree now bears. To ensure pollination, Mr. Fankhauser has two rows of each variety, and this method he has found to be successful. This year he is exporting 300 cases of Pears overseas. With Apples, however, he finds Sydney market to be most satisfactory.

Of Mr. Walford's 15 acre orchard, five acres are devoted to Pears and five to Apples, the balance being mixed fruit. This year about 250 cases of Pears will be exported. Despite eight sprayings with arsenate of lead, the codlin moth is not sufficiently under control, and Mr. Walford is amongst other district men who are querying the efficiency of the arsenate of lead.

The possibility of developing a trade direct with Cairns (Queensland), was mentioned by one of Mr. Walford's sons. The price was recently quoted from 2/6 to 3/6 per dozen for Apples and Pears.

Mr. E. Tainton has a well kept orchard of 9½ acres, divided equally between Apples and Pears, the standard varieties being cultivated. This year he expects to export 340 cases of Pears.

In Mr. Walter Mock, the East Burwood district has a consistent worker for the industry. Mr. Mock, besides being a local Councillor, has held the position of President of the Victorian Fruitgrowers' Cool Stores Association, President of the local fruitgrowers' society, and is one who has given valued time on various deputations. This season he expected to export between 500 and 600 cases of Apples and Pears. He has a 10 acre block of Peaches which bore a heavy crop this year. Mr. Mock stated he could express on behalf of local growers the dissatisfaction which the growers felt in connection with the relief proposals. In his position as a J.P., he had to witness the signatures on the forms which the growers were preparing under the Fruitgrowers' Relief Act. The particulars regarding assets which the Government required on their blue form, was humiliating to the growers, more especially in view of the fact that the relief money, when made available, was in individual cases very small.

The East Burwood cool store has a capacity of 32,000 cases. Built in 1914 at a cost of £20,000, it is a wooden structure, and last year, when putting in 15,000 bags of insulating material, it was found that there was a certain amount of dry rot which had to be attended to. However, the cool store has proved of great value to the district. The costs for storage have necessarily to include provision for interest and for repayment of the loan.

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VICTORIA

Somerville.—The remarkable and short fruit season is almost over, states Mr. T. W. Brunning, president Somerville Fruitgrowers' Association. The wholesale fruit drop in March with Jonathan gives one the idea that prolonged, dry, hot spells in January and early February have much to do with falling of such Apples as William's Favorite and Gravenstein—it appears to be quite evident that the Apple, together with the sap flow, becomes so heated that nature is considerably interfered with, consequently, the fruit falls to the ground when a stage just before maturity is reached.

Later ripening varieties were not affected, bearing out the theory that is possible should a prolonged heat wave occur—when Apples are in the same degree of maturity, they will fall.

The heat wave started on the Thursday, March 8th, and continued each day at over 100 deg. till the Wednesday, March 14, when the first signs of abatement were apparent. The Apples commenced to fall from March 13 to 19, after 80 per cent. of the Jonathans, the few that remained lightened up—What a spectacle!—almost the result of one year's work on the ground. Where would we start?—100 acres to go over—a rush round for men, from neighboring districts, from the labor agencies, until 39 hands were busy, picking up, grading, carting, stacking, etc.; luckily, a big supply of ready-made cases was available—somewhere between 8,000 to 9,000 cases of Jonathans were on the ground — quite 20 per cent. too small to pay to handle; fruit on the

ground on the north side of the trees were scorched and burnt by the sun within an hour of falling to the ground.

Within a fortnight the fruit was in cases and into our cool store grading rooms, which are 300 ft. long and 20 ft. wide, and this space was fully utilised, with the grader and packers working overtime to try and overtake the task ahead of them.

The extra hands were paid off, and gradually routine got down to normal conditions for the orchard staff.

Our experience was typical of every orchardist throughout the district.

The local known record pickup was 620 cases for three men in one day "from dawn till sunset," but the situation was saved by the effort.

However, the experience is not without its lesson, inasmuch as it has proved it pays to be always ready with plenty of cases for any emergency which may arise to deal with fallen fruit quickly.

Fortunately again the new addition to the cool store was almost complete, and with the additional portion, is now 17,500-case capacity—with the grading room right round seven-eighths of the chambers, totalling 6,000 square feet floor space.

The nursery section did not suffer any ill effects, as the growing season was finished, with the ground in first-class cultivated condition.

Orders for the coming season are coming in freely, and prospects are very encouraging. Canning Peaches are almost fully booked up, growers looking well ahead to having good fruit supplies from the then bearing young trees, which are always better croppers, and less expensive to keep up than older trees, which require more pushing to get the size of fruit and crop.

In Apples, the main varieties still continue to be main enquiry, so with considerable improvement in local and export distribution there still looks to be a good investment for growers outside the larger country towns, where Plums, Pears, Cherries, Quinces, Nectarines, Loquats, etc., to give variety, have a ready market.

Panton Hill.—At the April meeting, Mr. S. A. Cracknell presiding, reports were received from the Dept. of Agriculture and the Agent General in London (Mr. Linton) re export and the legal decision in the "Hobsons Bay" case. Messrs. Cracknell, Duff and Harris were appointed to attend the meeting of fruitgrowers' associations on April 14. The President congratulated members on the success of the recent show: a credit of £3/17/3 was shown. Maters relating to the green ticket system at Victoria Market and export fruit were discussed.

PASTURE IMPROVEMENT.

Activity of Mr. J. J. Ahern, Pakenham, Vic.

GOOD WORK is being accomplished by the Pasture Improvement League, which is operating in conjunction with the Victorian Dept. of Agriculture. Their annual report, just published, contains many points of interest regarding certified seeds and the manurial programme.

* * *

A well known Victorian fruitgrower—Mr. J. J. Ahern, of Pakenham, Vic.—is among those who are co-operating in this valuable work.

The land on Mr. Ahern's property is described as a gritty silt loam on rising ground and of moderate fertility, is used largely for fruit-growing, but much of it is under pasture.

On the manurial plots superphosphate and sulphate of ammonia have both given marked increases in growth, but neither lime nor potash have given any material response.

Cocksfoot and ryegrass are making the bulk of the growth on the sown section. Red and white clovers have made good headway, but subterranean clover development has been fair only. Other pasture and clover species have not made satisfactory progress. Weeds consisting mainly of briza, chickweed, sorrel, flatweed, plantain, and scarlet pimpernel, are present in small amount.

There has been marked improvement on the top-dressed areas. The cocksfoot and ryegrass development has been satisfactory, but subterranean clover, which usually does well in this class of country, did not make satisfactory progress on the plots during the past season.

THE MARKETING OF APPLES.

Senator R. D. Elliott at Harcourt.

Addressing a meeting of fruitgrowers and school children at Harcourt recently, Senator R. D. Elliott urged the sending of two growers to England to study marketing there.

Growers must understand the details of marketing, as the battlefield had shifted from the farm to the market.

The visit was in connection with an essay on the marketing of Apples, the prize being donated by Messrs. Barker, Green and Parke.

Short addresses were given by Messrs. H. Ford, W. Eagle, Jr., S. Johanson, J. H. Lang, J. Ely, and Cr. J. B. Warren.

Harcourt. — The quantity of fruit despatched from Harcourt this season for export is under 45,000 cases, as compared with 400,000 cases last season.

At a meeting at Harcourt on April 16 to consider alterations to the constitution of the V.F.M.A., it was also decided, "That this meeting of the Harcourt V.F.M.A. and Harcourt Fruit Export Committee, representing the whole of the Harcourt export growers, protests against any restriction of export of fresh fruit, other than that of inferior varieties and "plain" grade, these to be decided by the growers."

Portland. — Apple shipments from Portland up to April 21 were 4,440 cases, from Gorae 17,392 cases and from Heathmere 1,025 cases. The destinations were London, Liverpool, Hull, Glasgow, Hamburg, and Rotterdam.

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MILDURA AND DISTRICT.

Mr. D. C. Winterbottom, manager of the Mildura Co-operative Fruit Co.; Mr. L. J. Cleary, manager, Aurora Packing Co.; and Mr. H. R. Sloan, manager, Red Cliffs Co-operative Co., were given a hearty send-off from Mildura at the end of April on the eve of their departure for England to study the marketing of Australian Dried Fruits.

Mr. F. de Castella, the esteemed Victorian Government Viticulturist, visited the Merbein Research Station and several horticultural holdings during April. As regards losses from oidium, Mr. de Castella said that the common mistake made was in not adopting remedial measures early enough.

Drainage Scheme at Mildura.—Mr. G. L. Goudie, M.L.C. (Minister for Water Supply) met on April 20 Mildura men concerned with the drainage proposals, and gave a favorable hearing: he said legal details would be expedited. Growers urged prompt attention, whether by First Mildura Irrigation Trust or Employment Council Mr. A. S. Kenyon (Irrigation Commission) said the work would cost from £50,000 to £100,000, and would need to be done thoroughly.

Cardross Fruit Crops.—The average yield of fruit in the Cardross section of Red Cliffs, is 25 tons per block, most growers having received from 20-30 tons. One or two growers received 40 tons. The average yields at Cardross this year compare more than favorably with yields in any other part of the Red Cliffs settlement. This season practically every grower escaped frost damage, and one grower whose block sustained damage to the early shoots has received a second crop off the same vines.—"Sunraysia Daily."

Cardross.—Mr. G. L. Goudie (Minister for Water Supply) placed into position the first pipe of the Cardross community drainage scheme on April 20 in the presence of a representative gathering of district citizens and officials of the Water Commission. The estimated cost is £10,000, half of which is to be found by the Victorian Government through the Employment Council, and the other 50 per cent. by the local growers.

Merbein.—In replying to a deputation at Merbein on April 21, Mr. G. L. Goudie, M.L.C., said he was convinced that the present difficulties could be overcome, and that the prospects for carrying out a drainage scheme were bright.

Growers stated their share of the cost would be £35,000 to £40,000. Mr. G. L. Hardie (Chairman Drainage Committee) urged provision for growers' repayments by a long-dated loan.

Merbein.—The total fresh Grapes despatched from the railway station to April 21 were 26,474 cases, as against 17,534 cases to a corresponding date last season.

AUTUMN VINEYARD WORK.

During May, preparation should be made for cutting burying ditches, states Mr. R. M. Voullaire, Mildura. It is desirable to ditch out and seed down the cutting ditches in late May and early June. Tares are ideal for this purpose, because of their slow winter, but rapid spring growth. About two cwt. of super should be used for this crop.

WINTER PLOUGHING IN VINEYARDS.

DEEP WINTER PLOUGHING is recommended by Mr. F. de Castella, Victorian Government Viticulturist, who maintains that cutting the roots once a year by a winter ploughing to a depth of 8 or 9 inches is quite harmless, provided it is carried out in winter, when the vine is dormant, as the dormant vine tolerates extensive root mutilation.

Providing the work be done in the winter, subsoiling every interval to a depth of two feet does not injure the vine, on the contrary, it has a rejuvenating effect on worn-out, old vines, owing to the formation near the cut ends of young roots.

After irrigation or rain, the dust-mulch must be re-established, and maintained. Winter cultivation must be deep, and it must be early; in fact, it can be commenced as soon as the Grapes are vintaged.

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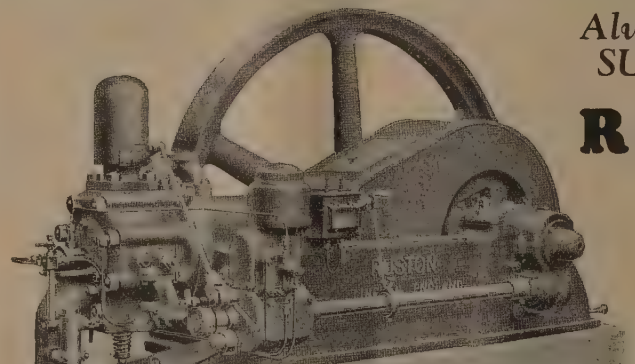

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Berry Growers Organising.

A branch of the United Berry-growers' Association has been formed in the Patch and Fairy Dell district; the President is Mr. J. P. Cowey; Vice-President, Mr. F. Hibgame; Secretary, Mr. R. O. Cowey; Treasurer, Mr. S. Crerar.

Monbulk.—The United Berry Growers' Association has formed a branch at Monbulk, with the following officers:—President, W. Evans, J.P.; treasurer, T. Bowman; secretary and delegate, A. Kay.

ASSISTANCE TO BERRY GROWERS.

In reference to the recent requests to assist berry growers in the Monbulk district, the Minister states that he has issued instructions that all growers needing sustenance are to make their claims direct to their local committee, who will report same and forward their recommendation to the Minister, who will then decide and instruct the local committee as to his decision. Each case will be considered on its merits. A motion was passed at the recent conference of berry growers demanding sustenance without work and repayment, low prices and inability to dispose of their berry crops being the cause of the trouble. Mr. Knox, M.L.A., has been making representations on behalf of the growers.

VICTORIA.

Croydon. — The fruit entries at the Croydon Show were less numerous than usual, though the quality was excellent.

Mr. A. J. Upton won the prize for six varieties of Apples and many other prizes as well. Other successful competitors were: Messrs. A. C. Chandler, A. E. Walden, L. R. Francis, Mrs. Smith, E. O. Symonds. Special prizes for members of Croydon Sub-Branch R.S.S.I.L.A. —L. R. Francis 1st, A. E. Round 2nd. There was a delightful show of flowers, and the horse, dog and other events were highly successful. The committee hopes that local fruitgrowers will in future take keener interest in this very important show.

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CODLIN MOTH CONTROL

Experiments With Non-Lead Sprays

EXPERIMENTS are at present being carried on in Wenatche (U.S.A.), for the control of codlin moth by non-lead sprays. The experimental work for the 1933 season required 137 separate field plots, and involved 15 acres, mostly of 25-year-old trees.

Zinc arsenate used with herring oil yielded results apparently similar to arsenate of lead.

Zinc arsenite used with iron hydrate as a corrective, prevented arsenical injury, but interfered with insecticidal effectiveness of the zinc arsenite. An excessive amount of iron interfered with the coloring of fruit, but when herring oil was added to a mixture containing an excess of iron, the codlin moth control and color of fruit were both improved.

A special factory treated iron coated zinc arsenite used with herring oil gave better codlin moth control than lead arsenate alone. It caused no more injury and produced well-colored fruits of good size.

Calcium arsenate, when used with ½ per cent. mineral oil was found to be more effective than arsenate of lead alone.

Zinc sulphate-calcium arsenate-calcium hydrate and the aluminium sulphate-calcium arsenate-calcium hydrate mixtures, from the foliage and fruit injury standpoint, were the most outstanding in the experimental orchard. In this respect they were much superior to lead arsenate alone. Apparently these mixtures were as effective in codlin moth control as lead arsenate alone, so far as can be judged from a single season's work.

It appears that nicotine sulphate-fish oil mixtures may be approximately as effective in codlin moth control as nicotine sulphate-mineral oil, where an equal amount of mineral oil is used.

In view of certain difficulties in residue removal, where nicotine sulphate-mineral oil was applied following lead arsenate, this may prove to be an extremely useful spray mixture, particularly for second brood applications. This mixture, however, needs further development before it can be recommended for use.

It is extremely possible that a spray mixture no more costly than arsenate of lead may be proved within the next year to be a fairly satisfactory substitute for it. In the meantime, lead arsenate is still the most satisfactory single spray material for codlin moth, and lead arsenate and fish oil the best combination.

* * *

The foregoing is only a very brief summary of the experiments which are being conducted by Messrs. J. Marshall and Kermet Groves, of the Division of Entomology and Chemistry, Washington Experiment Station, U.S.A. If readers desire further information, and will write to the Editor, more particulars will be published.

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RAPID HANDLING, QUICK DESPATCH, LOW CHARGES, and THE BEST PRICES. SEND YOUR FRUIT TO HULL.

TEN MODERN DOCKS entirely owned and managed by

The London & North Eastern Railway

Full information supplied by:—

AUSTRALIA.—BURNS, PHILP & CO. LTD.,

7 Bridge Street, Sydney. 312 Collins Street, Melbourne; and Branches.

Dried Fruits—News and Notes

DRIED TREE FRUITS.

The following estimate of the production of dried tree fruits in Australia for 1934, was recently compiled.

	N.S.W.	S.A.	Vic.	Total.
Apricots	260	1,049	110	1,419
Peaches	26	180	101	307
Nectarines . .	6	50	6	62
Pears	1	226	27	254
Prunes	1,745	320	245	2,310
	2,038	1,825	489	4,352

It will be seen that in the production of Prunes, the heaviest production is in N.S. Wales; in other respects, Sth. Australia holds the dominant position.

DRIED TREE FRUITS.

Poll of Growers on May 9.

The poll of growers of dried tree fruits in accordance with the Dried Tree Fruits Act, will close on May 9. If the growers agree to the proposal that marketing in the industry should be controlled, it will apply to this year's produce, otherwise the Act will lapse. Growers are being supplied with ballot papers.

M.I.A. DRIED VINE FRUITS.

Owing to the abnormal season, much of the dried vine fruits on the Murrumbidgee Irrigation Areas will be of export standard, the N.S.W. Dried Fruits Board has arranged to give permission to the packing sheds to adjust their export by equalisation under the Dried Fruits Association Scheme, or by proxy export, which will mean that the dried fruits produced on the M.I.A. this season will be sold on the Australian market.

Every precaution is being taken to ensure that the grading of all sheds will be uniform in every particular.

South Australian Dried Fruits Levy.—The levy on dried fruits produced in South Australia in 1934 has been fixed at 1/32d. per lb., or 5/10 per ton.

TRADE WITH CANADA.

Popularity of Australian Dried and Canned Fruits.

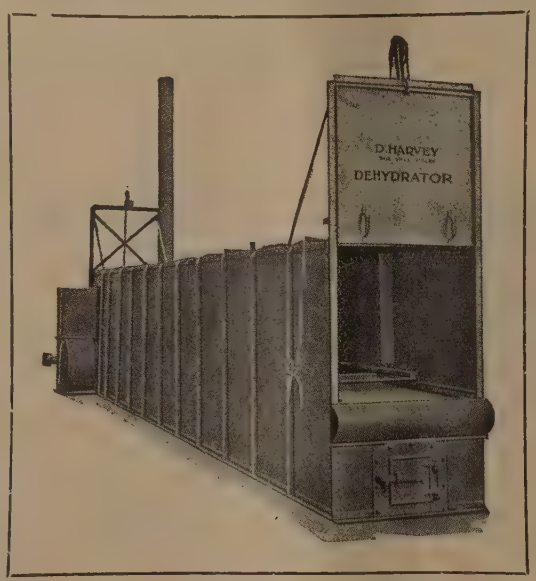
When speaking to the representatives of the fruit industry in N.S.W. recently, Mr. L. R. Macgregor (Australian Trade Commissioner in Canada), particularly referred to the fact that Australian dried fruits are gaining popularity in Canada. Although the packing and get-up compared unfavorably with that of Australia's competitors, the flavor of the fruit was superior. Australia's canned fruits were regarded as equal to the best of other countries: even the leading Californian packs are not now regarded as superior.

DRIED FRUITS NOTES.

Mildura's dried fruits deliveries to the Mildura Railway Station for the week ended Saturday, April 21, were 21,339 boxes or 591 tons: 4,119 boxes were for Commonwealth markets, and 17,220 boxes for export overseas.

The deliveries of dried fruits to the Mildura Packing Sheds up to April 21 were 35,500 tons, including Sultanas 25,423 tons 14 cwt., Lexias 2,726 tons 12 cwt., and Currants 7,349 tons 15 cwt.

INSURE Your Dried Fruit Crops Against LOSS through RAIN



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Patent Re-circulation Forced Draught
DEHYDRATOR

Is the Most Efficient Dehydrator the World can offer to-day!

LARGE OUTPUT, ECONOMICAL TO OPERATE.

Now used by all the most up-to-date Packing Sheds, Companies and Growers for Drying Prunes, Peaches, Pears, Apples, Apricots, Sultanas, Tomatoes, &c.

REMOVE ANXIETY OF BROKEN SEASONS CAUSED BY DAMP SPELLS BY PLACING YOUR ORDER FOR EARLY DELIVERY

Avoid Lightweight Sultanas through having to Pick Too Early!

When you own a HARVEY DEHYDRATOR you do not have to start Picking before the full sugar content is there—you can dry in spite of the early rains which invariably set in before the drying is finished.

PRUNE GROWERS—Write for particulars of Latest PRUNE GRADER

FRUITGROWERS—Grade your Fruit with the "HARVEY" APPLE and PEAR GRADERS.

REMOVE SPRAY with the "HARVEY" APPLE WASHER.

D. HARVEY, Orchard Implement Specialist, BOX HILL, VICTORIA

INTERSTATE REPRESENTATIVES:—

New South Wales.—Buzacott & Co. Ltd., 7/11 Market Street, Sydney.
Queensland.—Clark & Fauset Ltd., 73 Eagle Street, Brisbane.
South Australia.—Silbert, Sharp & Bishop Ltd., Rundle Street, East, Adelaide.
Tasmania.—Max Geeves Pty. Ltd., Davey Street, Hobart.
" Clements and Marshall Pty. Ltd., 119 Cimitiere Street, Launceston.
" Harry Murray, Devonport.

Merbein. — The total dried fruits despatched from Merbein Railway Station to April 21 were 115,952 boxes, or 3,174 tons. To a corresponding date last season 150,801 boxes—4,199 tons had been sent forward.

Swan Hill (27/4/34).—District sheds have received 6,400 tons of dried fruit, against 7,100 tons for the previous season, which is a higher figure than was estimated. Although the quality is lower, on the whole, the sugar in the fruit has increased weight, and tonnage about 20 per cent. above the estimated returns.

AUSTRALIAN DRIED FRUITS SALES IN GREAT BRITAIN.

Advices received by the Commonwealth Dried Fruits Export Control Board from the agency of the board at London show that 1,276 tons of Australian dried fruits were placed in Great Britain during the week ended April 26.

1,086 tons of last season's Sultanas sold at £30/13/4 per ton, and 168 tons of new season's Currants were placed at an average of £43/15/- per ton.

Shipments of Australian dried fruits to Great Britain from the 1934 harvest amount to 12,684 tons, comprising 6,036 tons Currants, 6,255 tons Sultanas, and 393 tons Lexias.

PRUNE MARKET.

The annual report of the South Australian Prune Association states that 416¼ tons were received, and seems to be disposed of satisfactorily. The export consisted of 201 tons to New Zealand, London and Canada. The large proportion of very small Prunes is a difficult problem. The Association functions as a voluntary pool.

PORTABLE DEHYDRATOR.

A portable dehydrator was recently demonstrated on the block of Mr. A. Edwards, Red Cliffs, and that of Mr. J. Schmidt, of Irymple. Among those present were Mr. F. de Castella, the Government Viticulturist; Mr. A. V. Lyon, of the Merbein Research Station; Mr. Noel, the chief fruit inspector Mildura district, and prominent local producers. "Steel Blayde," of "Sunraysia Daily," speaks well of the principle of this machine for the bringing on of fruit in the process of being dried.

CIDER MACHINERY

Crusher with fast and loose pulleys, takes about 1 h.p. or less to drive it; capacity about 40 bush. per hour. Press capacity about 80 gal. per day. Both in perfect condition.

Price, £40 the lot.

ELMSDALE CIDER CO., Balhannah, South Australia.

Let's Be Cheerful

Readers are invited to send in original items or favorite quotations for this section which will be a regular feature of the Fruit World

Thought for the Month.

Get knowledge all you can: and the more you get the more you breathe upon its nearer heights their invigorating air, and enjoy the widening prospect, the more you will know, and feel, how small is the elevation you have reached in comparison with the immeasurable altitudes that yet remain unscaled. Be thorough in all you do, and, remember, that, though ignorance may often be innocent, pretence is always despicable, quit you like men; be strong, and the exercise of your strength to-day will give you more strength to-morrow. Work onwards, and work upwards, and may the blessing of the most high soothe your cares, clear your vision, and crown your labor with reward.—W. E. Gladstone.

Don't Worry.

Worry pulls down the organism, and will finally tear it to pieces; nothing is to be gained by it, but everything is to be lost. Look out for the bright, the brightest side of things, and keep thy face constantly turned to it.

The man with only one idea is generally too narrow-minded to make a success even of that one, and the man with no new ideas is in just as bad a plight.

"WOULDST THOU BE HAPPY?"

Wouldst thou be wretched? 'Tis an easy way;
Think of but self and self alone all day;
Think of thy pain, thy grief, thy loss, thy care.
All that thou hast to do, or feel, or hear;
Think of thy good, thy pleasure, and thy gain,
Think only of thyself: 'Twill be in vain.

Wouldst thou be happy? Take an easy way:
Think of those around thee — live for them each day:
Think of their pain, their loss, their grief, their care:
All that they have to do, or feel, or bear;
Think of their pleasure, of their good, their gain;
Think of those around thee—'Twill not be vain.

A kind thought—may the dial of thy life mark only the sunny hours.

It takes courage to stand up for one's opinion when loud voices are shouting to the contrary. Yet it usually happens that the quiet, considered opinion of the thoughtful man proves out in the long run to be correct.

Keep your face always toward the sunshine, and the shadows will fall behind you.

Write your name with love, mercy and kindness on the hearts of those about you, and you will never be forgotten.

Blessed be the man who thinks and talks with facts! He is needed in the world to-day, where more time is being wasted and more money spent by doing things wrongly than by doing them at all. To the man with facts, life offers greater resources, greater responsibilities, and more satisfying achievements, than at any period in history.—From "Electrical World."

Men are needed these days — red blooded, virile men — with knowledge, experience and winsome personalities, to guide Australia to her destiny.

Self-sacrifice, not self-seeking, should be the impulse. The tendency too often is to play upon the prejudices or ignorance of others to gain some position of advantage.

Hidden Enemies.

1. The worker who is careless of material because he doesn't have to pay for it.

2. The human bat, who is careful not to do more than he is paid for, forgetting that as soon as he is bigger than his job, that he will find a bigger one to fill.

3. The disposition on the part of some people to make continual excuses under the mistaken impression that they are offering bona fide reasons for delay and non-performance.

4. The short-sighted person who continually sees what is behind, but has neither vision nor courage for what is ahead.

5. The fool idea that what "I" do must be recognised and heralded and made a fuss about—or it doesn't count.

6. The executive who thinks he can't make a mistake, and is too pig-headed to acknowledge it when he does.—American Exchange.

We are born with faculties and powers capable of almost anything—such as at least would carry us further than can easily be imagined; but it is only the exercise of those powers which gives us ability and skill in anything, and leads us towards perfection.—John Locke.

The man who can't make a mistake can't make anything.—Abraham Lincoln.

A keen sense of fun and kindly humor is a fairly good indication of brains and force.

There are thousands of young men who want to enjoy the fruits of success, but how many are there who are willing to pay the price in hard work that success exacts?

No man is ever down and out as long as there is fire in his heart and snap in his eyes.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

Bridgetown. — The annual fruit show of the Bridgetown Horticultural Society was officially declared open by Mr. L. Craig, M.L.C., assisted by Mr. J. H. Smith, M.L.A. The fruit exhibits were of excellent quality, but the entries were not as numerous as might be expected from this noted fruit-growing district. Other exhibits included ring events, those of trotting and cycling being especially good.

FRUIT FLY IN W.A.

Recently a deputation representing the Growers' Marketing Section of the Primary Producers' Association met the Minister for Agriculture (Hon. H. Millington) and various proposals were made with the object of combating the fruit fly. It is believed that local authorities could do what is necessary as they already have staff, office and other machinery. As a result a conference was called on Friday, April 27.

Two boys were quarrelling. One said: "Anyway, you're a heathen. You've never been baptised."

"Yah!" shouted the other, "that's all you know about it. I can show you the marks on my arm now!"

"Black Leaf 40"

Death to Aphis (Plant Lice) and Other Insects

Aphis and other insects are common enemies of the orchardist and gardener. Protect your trees, vines and plants with "Black Leaf 40."

"Black Leaf 40" has the endorsement of Agricultural Colleges, Experiment stations and orchardists. It is the World's leading aphis specific. It also kills the young larvae of many chewing insects when sprayed upon them so as to wet their bodies.

In the Orchard and Garden

"Black Leaf 40" is recommended for killing wooly aphis, apple aphis, peach aphis, aphis on roses, other flowers and vegetables, mussel scale (young), Harlequin fruit bug, holy or cross bug, oleander scale (young), San Jose scale (young), red scale (young), red mites (Summer), rutherglen bug, pear and cherry slug, thrip, fine scale (young), pea mite.

In the Poultry Yard

Paint the roosts lightly with "Black Leaf 40" just before the birds go to roost. Body-lice will be destroyed while the flock roosts. To help prevent mites from attacking fowls, tie or tack a piece of heavy cloth around ends of roosts and roost supports and saturate with "Black Leaf 40;" spray inside of house with "Black Leaf 40," three tablespoonsful to a gallon of water to which soap has been added.

Kills By Contact and By Fumes

"Black Leaf 40" has a dual action. It kills plant insects both by fumes and by contact. This double-killing action makes "Black Leaf 40" unusually effective in insect control.

Paint Roosts . . . Kill Poultry Lice

Poultrymen find that if they paint the roosts lightly with "Black Leaf 40" the lice on the birds are killed. The heat from the birds' bodies releases fumes which destroy lice, as the flock roosts on perches.

Genuine "Black Leaf 40"

"Black Leaf 40" is registered by us in Australia and New Zealand as a Trade-Mark and Brand. Users are familiar with the red labelled packages and the black leaf design prominently displayed thereon. Beware of imitations. Insist upon genuine "Black Leaf 40," made only by Tobacco By-Products & Chemical Corporation.

Distributed in Australia by Neptune Oil Company, Melbourne, and by Producers' Cooperative Distributing Society, Sidney

MANUFACTURED BY
Tobacco By-Products & Chemical Corp.
(Incorporated)
LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY, U.S.A.

A Healthy Chick Programme

Growing strong, healthy chicks is dependent upon the adoption and carrying out of a very definite sanitary programme. Success in the poultry business is dependent largely on the production of clean, healthy chicks. The poultry raiser can purchase hatching eggs, baby chicks, pullets or breeding stock, but he cannot purchase sanitation. It must be practised at all times.

Scientists have now demonstrated that insanitary conditions, overcrowding, chills, etc., definitely produce disease, and that under these conditions, beneficent types of bacteria will change to malignant types, and bring disaster to the flock.

A Healthy Chick Programme is designed to help chicken raisers reduce mortality and disease, and so produce better pullets. The quality of the pullets that eventually go into the laying house will considerably influence the returns in egg production. It is a paramount necessity therefore that poultry farmers pay strict attention to the management of their baby chicks.

HATCH EARLY. It is generally agreed that the early hatched chick is worth two or three late hatched chicks. The early hatched chicks give you the early maturing pullet, which will be laying for you in autumn and winter, the period of high-priced eggs. The early hatched cockerel can be sold for better prices than those from late hatches, which are a drug on the market.

AFTER CHICKS ARE HATCHED OUT too much care cannot be taken in transferring chicks from the incubator to the brooder. See that the brooder is working satisfactorily before the chicks are placed under. The care you give little chicks during their early days determines whether they will develop strong or weak digestive systems. Too much heat or too little heat is a cause of many chick troubles during the brooding stage. Overheating or chilling weakens the digestive organs, and causes bowel trouble. Keep the chicks close to the hover the first day or two by means of a circle of netting, gradually extending the space by enlarging the circle.

FEED A "BALANCED" RATION. The best rule to follow is to "feed according to the chick's needs." What are these needs? One is the supplying of proteins and minerals to make blood, muscle, bone and feathers. Another is providing fats and carbohydrates for heat and energy. Still another is furnishing vitamins, the life-giving properties which put the protein and minerals into action. Satisfy these needs and your chicks will live and thrive. The question which now arises is what feed or combination of feed will furnish the elements to satisfy the needs of your chicks?

The feeding of the chicks is of such vital importance that no risks whatever should be taken in this regard. It has been demonstrated that the young chicks require a much higher percentage of protein in the early stages than they do as they grow older. Foods have been scientifically prepared to meet all the needs of the chick. They supply the proteins, minerals and vitamins which are essential for building the blood, bones, nerves, feathers and muscles of the baby chick. It takes but two pounds of feed to raise a chick to six weeks, and even if a good feed cost a little extra per 100 lbs., it would represent only a fraction more to feed a chick on a ration of known value during the first six critical weeks.

Investigators have found that early feeding is not harmful to chicks. As soon as chicks begin to eat well, this builds up a resistance against disease; the chick that stands around moping and will not eat is not the chick that will thrive and grow, so that every effort should be made to keep the chicks busy feeding. Small mash hoppers are desirable for feeding baby chicks, but the first feeds may be given on newspaper or boards to encourage them to pick up the particles. Once they have got the taste for the feed they will soon find their way to the hoppers, and the papers or boards can then be removed.

Provide plenty of hopper space. For chicks up to three weeks of age about 80 inches of feeding space is necessary for 50 chicks.

Keep finely ground charcoal and grit before the chicks at all times. The water vessels should always contain plenty of fresh, clean water. Never let chicks get thirsty.

Once Bitten.

On entering a grocery store a customer happened to catch her skirt against the newly-painted door.

"Look here," she raved, "I've spoilt my new skirt."

"I'm sorry," said the manager, apologetically, "but didn't you see the notice, 'Fresh paint'?"

"Yes," barked back the customer, "but I didn't bother very much about it. You've got another notice over there, 'Fresh eggs'—but anyway, a bottle of ammonia, please."

"Aren't those Gooseberries rather dirty?" asked the purchaser of a street hawker.

"Dirty," snorted the barrowmen, "think a bloke can wash 'em and part their hair in the middle for tuppence a pound?"

Customer: "You say this parrot swears in a mild sort of way?"

Bird Dealer: "Yes, sir; he belonged to a curate who had his salary reduced."

"It says the man was shot by his wife at close range."

"Then there must have been powder marks on the body."

"Yes; that's why she shot him."

Confusing.

She rushed into a local chemist's shop.

"I've been trying for hours to telephone you, to get you to send up another bottle of my medicine, and you never answered," she complained. "I know I have one of these dial 'phones, and I sometimes get it wrong; but I couldn't be wrong all the time. I tried dozens of times and couldn't get anybody."

The chemist was aggrieved, but was Madame sure she had dialled the right number?"

"Why, of course I am," she replied. "I took it from one of your own bottles —EST. 1843."

Farmer: "I thought you told me you had ploughed that field?"

Ploughman: "No. I said that I was thinking about ploughing it—I've merely turned it over in my mind so far."

Creditor: "Now that you've come into a fortune, sir, I think you ought to pay my bill."

New-rich: "Do you suppose that just because I have money I'm going to change my ways?"

F. Chilton, Established 1894.
Fruit Commission Agent,
Licensed Under Farm Produce Agents' Act.
Highest Market Prices, Prompt Returns, Reliable Advice.
Registered Address for Telegrams and Cables—
"Chiltons."
City Fruit Markets, Sydney.

FRUITGROWERS!
For Satisfactory Results, Send Your Fruit to
F. H. G. Rogers
Fruit Selling Expert,
Municipal Markets, Sydney.
Shipping No. 83. Established 1900.

Established 1890. Block 147
CITY MARKETS, SYDNEY.
Licensed Fruit Commission Agents.
M. Walters & Co.
Sales conducted under direct supervision of proprietors.
Consignments Solicited.
Phone MA 4602

Regular consignments of fruit well packed and graded realise best prices.

Growers Obtain Top Prices by Consigning to:—
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MUNICIPAL MARKETS, SYDNEY.
Shipping Nos.—Tasmania 228, Q'land & Victoria 40.
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Licensed Farm Produce Agent,
Information and A/c Sales Promptly.
CITY MUNICIPAL MARKETS, SYDNEY.
References All Growers Throughout Australia.
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Bank of N.S.W., Haymarket.
H. BLACK & SON,
Licensed Farm Produce Agents,
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Consignments of Fruit, Tomatoes, and Other Produce Received for Sale.
Cases Sent on Application.
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FRUIT GROWERS—Seeking Expert Salesmanship, Satisfactory Results and Prompt Returns,
CONSIGN YOUR FRUIT TO
L. SMITH
Licensed Farm Produce Agents,
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Shipping No. 235. **Phone: M 3045**

Telephone MA 3846. **Established 1900.**
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Our Motto—Quick Sales and Prompt Settlements.
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Queensland, Northern Rivers, **No. 18.**

GROWERS!—Consign your Fruit to:—
JAMES SLATER
21 CITY MARKETS, SYDNEY
Postal Address: Box 36, Haymarket P.O., Sydney.
Established 1882.
SHIPPING NO. 19. 88 VIC. & TAS.
Stencils, Advice Notes, etc., on Application.

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Licensed Farm Produce Agents.
CITY MUNICIPAL MARKETS.
Manager: BRUCE R. SMITH.
Reliable Service, Prompt Advice and Returns.
Highest Ruling Rates.
Phone: MA 1828.

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Licensed Farm Produce Agents
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Efficient and Prompt Service, Reliable Advice
Forwarding Numbers:— Tasmania; Victoria. South Australia **No. 63.**
Queensland - - - - **No. 61.**
Agencies: LONDON and HULL. *Consignments Arranged.* References Bank of N.S.W., Castlereagh St., Sydney
PHONE: MA. 1363 **Telegraphic Address—"Citrus" Sydney.**

Australian and New Zealand Fruit Trade

Market Notes and News — Prices, etc.

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NEW SOUTH WALES.

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Black, H., & Son.
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Griffiths Fruit Supply Ltd.
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Lockart, H. C.
Moss, J., & Sons.
Musgrove, W., & Son.
McEnally, R.
Rogers, F. H. G.
Slater, Jas.
Schuster, A. E.
Smith, L.
Stubbs, J.
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Bell, Banson Pty. Ltd., Wholesale Fruit Market.
Cave, F., & Co. Pty. Ltd., Wholesale Fruit Market
Davis, J., Pty. Ltd., Wholesale Fruit Market.
Frankel, H. & S., Wholesale Fruit Market.
Lister, G., Pty. Ltd., Wholesale Fruit Market.
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Silbert, Sharp & Davies, Wholesale Fruit Market.
Stott & Sons, T., Wholesale Fruit Market.
Tim Young & Co. Pty. Ltd., Wholesale Fruit Market
Tong, W. S., Wholesale Fruit Market.
Vear, F. W., Pty. Ltd.
Wade, H. M., & Co., Wholesale Fruit Market.
Wilson, H., Pty. Ltd., Wholesale Fruit Market.
Wing, R. A., & Co., Wholesale Fruit Market.
Wing, Young & Co., Wholesale Fruit Market.
Woolf, G., Wholesale Fruit Market
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Young, J. H., & Co. Pty., Wholesale Fruit Market.

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Cooksley & Co., Fruit Exchange.
Geeves, H. V., Fruit Exchange.
Jacklyn & Jacklyn.
Robsons Ltd., Fruit Exchange.
Winters, E.

Hobart: **TASMANIA.**

Eric Burgess Pty. Ltd., 88 Collins Street, Hobart.
E. R. Cottier Pty. Ltd., Temple Place, Macquarie Street
Jones, H., Co. Ltd., Fruit Exporters.
Peacock, W. D., & Co., Fruit Exporters, and at London

Launceston:

Bender & Co. Pty. Ltd., 100 Elizabeth Street.

Dunedin: **NEW ZEALAND.**

Co-operative Fruitgrowers of Otago Ltd.

Hull: **GREAT BRITAIN.**

London and North-Eastern Railway, 7 Bridge-street, Sydney, N.S.W.

London:

Margetson & Co. Ltd., Covent Garden, London.
Monro, Geo., Ltd., Covent Garden.
Port of London (Capt. A. W. Pearse, 10 Bligh St., Sydney).
Poupart, T. J., Ltd., Covent Garden.
Ridley, Houlding & Co., Covent Garden.
White & Son Ltd., London Fruit Exchange, Spitalfields, E.1.

Manchester:

The Port of Manchester Rep., W. J. Wade, 8 Bridge Street, Sydney.

Bremen: **GERMANY.**

Fruchthandel, Gesellschaft.

Hamburg:

Astheimer, P. H., & Son, Fruchthof
Gustav Bey, Hamburg.
Int. Fruit Import Gesellschaft.
Lutten, J. H., & Sohn, Hamburg.
Stier, Aug., Fruchthof.
Timm & Gerstenkorn.

Market Reports

NEW SOUTH WALES.

Sydney (30/4/34).—The Market Representative of the Fruitgrowers' Federation of N.S.W., reports prices as follows:—**Apples:** Cleo., 4/6 to 6/6; Del,. 5/- to 12/-; French Crab, 4/6 to 6/-; Duke of Clarence, 3/6 to 4/6; G. Smith, 4/6 to 11/-; Jon., 4/6 to 7/-, few 8/-; King David, 4/- to 5/-; L. Pippin, 4/- to 5/6; green, 7/-; Geeveston Fanny, 4/6 to 5/6; R. Beauty, 5/- to 8/-; Scarlet Pearmain, 5/- to 6/-; Tasman's Pride, 4/- to 5/-; Winesap, 4/- to 6/-. **Pears:** B. Bosc., 4/6 to 7/6; Glou Morceau, 5/- to 7/6; Jos., 6/- to 8/-; Packhams T., 6/- to 10/-; Williams, 4/6 to 6/-; W. Cole, 6/6 to 10/-; W. Nelis, 6/- to 8/-. Between 50,000 and 60,000 cases of Apples and Pears are expected from Tasmania late to-day. Scarlet are not yet in demand, due to the large quantity of Jons. still arriving. Large-sized Jons. are in some instances showing "sleepy." A good enquiry has been experienced for Pears, the required size (small) being scarce. Bananas: N.S.W. and Q'land, 10/- to 19/-, few higher, per trop. case; Fiji, 17/- to 22/-; Norfolk Is., 8/- to 12/-, few 15/-. 1,100 cases arrived from Norfolk Is. on the 23rd inst., and are now mostly cleared. These were mostly mixed, ripe and green, and repacking in some instances was impracticable. Demand is easier for all Bananas at present. Custard Apples: Q'land, 3/- to 4/- half bushel; Grapefruit, 6/- to 8/-, few 10/-; Lemons, N.S.W. colored, 4/- to 8/-; Mangrove and M.I.A., cured, 7/- to 10/- bushel; local, green, 2/- to 4/6; plain, 2/- to 5/-; M.I.A., green, 5/- to 7/-. **Oranges:** N.S.W. Vals., plain grade, 4/- to 7/- bush.; standard, 7/- to 10/-; special, 8/- to 12/- (few 14/-); second crop, 3/- to 6/- (few to 8/-); new season's Navels, 5/- to 6/- (well colored to 8/-); new season Siletta, 2/- to 4/-; Queensland Navels, 8/- to 12/-; Q'land Joppas, 8/- to 10/-.

Comments on the Citrus Position.

Grape-fruit. — During the past week supplies from metropolitan sources have increased, but most fruit is green and hard. A few are also appearing from inland sources.

Lemons.—Green Lemons have been practically unsaleable, and all types are in dull demand.

Oranges.—The arrival of new season fruit has affected the demand for Vals., and small second crop Vals. are unsaleable. A few inland Thompson's have appeared. Siletta are practically unsaleable.

Mandarins.—A small quantity of Imperial have been arriving, and have realised 3/- to 5/- per half.

Grapes: N.S.W. Inland, Black Muscat, 3/- to 4/6, spec., to 6/-; Doradillo, 3/- to 4/- per half; Gordo, 3/- to 4/6 half; Cornichon, 3/- to 4/6, few spec. to 6/-; O'Hanez, 3/6 to 5/-. **Passionfruit:** N.S.W., 2/- to 5/- half, few spec. to 6/-. Papaws, 8/- to 14/- trop. case; Persimmons, 1/- to 3/- half; Pineapples, Q., 8/- to 12/- trop. case; Quinces, N.S.W. and Vic., 3/- to 5/- bushel.

VICTORIA.

Melbourne (30/4/34).—Prices quoted by the Wholesale Fruit Merchants' Association on Saturday were as follow:

Cable Address: DAVIS, MELBOURNE. Code: "ABC," 4th and 5th Editions. Box, G.P.O. 148B.

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WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

Perth (23/4/34).—Apples, Jons., flats, 3/6 to 4/6; dumps, plain and small, 3/- to 5/-; standard, 5/- to 8/-; prime, 8/- to 10/6; Dunns, 3/- to 4/-, 4/- to 5/6, 5/- to 6/6; R. Beauty, standard, 3/- to 4/6, prime 4/6 to 6/-; G. Smith 4/6 to 5/6, 6/- to 7/-; Cleo. 2/9 to 3/9, 4/- to 5/6, 5/6 to 6/6; Del. 5/- to 7/-, 7/- to 7/9, 8/- to 8/6; other varieties, 4/- to 5/-. Citrus: Vals., flats, 4/- to 5/6, 5/6 to 9/-; dumps 6/6 to 9/-, 9/6 to 11/6, 12/- to 14/3; Navel, flats, 3/6 to 7/6; Lemons, 1/6 to 3/-, 4/- to 5/-. Pears: Bartlett, dumps, 4/6 to 8/-; other varieties, flats 2/6 to 6/6, dumps 4/- to 7/-. Grapes: open, white, 3/- to 5/-, 5/6 to 7/-, 7/3 to 9/-; closed, 2/9; colored, 3/- to 5/-; Passionfruit, half dumps, 7/- to 10/6; dumps, 2/- to 5/-, 5/6 to 7/-, 7/6 to 9/-.

QUEENSLAND.

Brisbane (27/4/34). — Pineapples, smoothleaf, cases, 3/6 to 7/-; roughleaf, 5/- to 8/9; Lemons, 4/- to 11/- case; Gayndah, 8/- to 9/-; Benyenda, 16/- to 17/-; Oranges, 2/- to 5/-, few 6/-; Navels, 5/- to 9/-; Gayndah, 9/- to 11/-; Benyenda, 10/- to 12/-; Mandarins, 6/- to 9/-; choice, 10/- to 12/-; Fewtrells, 5/- to 9/-; Grapefruit, 4/- to 6/-; Passions, 2/6 to 8/-; Custard Apples, 2/- to 2/6, odd lines, 3/-; Papaws, 3/- to 7/- bushel case; Yarwun, 12/- to 14/- one-and-a-half bushel case; Grapes, white, 3/- to 5/-; W. Cross, 4/- to 7/-; Purple Cornichon, 6/- to 8/-; Red Malaga, 6/- to 7/6; Gros. Colman, 1/6 to 3/6; Apples: G. Smith, 6/- to 8/6 bushel case, a few at 9/-; eating varieties, 4/- to 8/-. Imported Fruit: Vic. Pears, 4/- to 10/-; Vic. Apples, Jons., 5/- to 8/-; others, 5/- to 7/-; Tas. Pears, W.C., 7/- to 10/-; W.N., 6/- to 10/-; O.S., 5/- to 8/-; Tas. Apples, SPM, 6/- to 7/6; A.R.C., 6/- to 7/-; Jon., 6/- to 8/-; F.C., 6/- to 7/6; T.T., 6/- to 7/-; A.L.F., 5/- to 6/-.

NEW ZEALAND.

Messrs. Reilly's Central Produce Mart, Dunedin, report, under date April 20, as follows:—

During the week, exceptionally heavy consignments of Apples arrived, especially Coces Orange, and at the moment the market is over-supplied, and prices are entirely in favor of buyers. Pears have also been in over supply — large quantities arriving, and sales are difficult to effect even at greatly reduced prices on those ruling last week. Quinces are not meeting the demand that growers anticipated. Strawberries have been neglected, and prices have slumped. Grapes, fortunately, have met a good demand, and prices are well maintained. The Passionfruit coming forward has found favor with buyers. Cape Gooseberries have also sold at good values. Stone fruits and outside grown Tomatoes are practically finished for the season. Second-crop hot-house Tomatoes are selling at very reasonable prices.

Overseas fruits are short of requirements, though there are still few Jamaican Oranges, American Navels, and Lemons available, which command higher prices. The shipment of Samoan and Niue Bananas arrived in perfect condition, and met a good market.

Prices:—Half-Cases: Peaches, choice Freestone, 4/-, 5/6; N.Z. Passions, 5/-, 7/-; Dessert Pears, 1/-, 2/6; Plums, Coes Late Red, 4/- to 5/-; N.Z. Lemons, 12/-; Cape Gooseberries, 5/-, 6/-. **Bushel Cases:** Apples, Grav., 5/-, 6/-; Coxs, 6/-9/-; Jons., 5/-, 7/-; Dels., 5/-, 7/-; Cookers, 4/6, 5/6; Pears, Conference, 4/-5/-; W. Coles, 7/-; Bosc., 4/-, 6/-; Marie Louise, 6/-; Nelis, 6/-, 7/-; Twyfords, 7/-; Packhams Triumph, 6/-, 7/-; Jamaican Oranges, Canadian cases, 32/-; Cal. Oranges, 45/-; Cal. Lemons, 60/-; N.Z. Lemons, 20/-, 22/6; Bananas, ripe Niues, 20/-.

VICTORIAN FRUIT SHIPMENTS.

The shipments of fresh fruit to U.K. and the Continent from Victoria for the week ended April 21, are set out in a statement issued by the Victorian Department of Agriculture, as follows:—April 17, "Oronsay," to London, 6,051 cases Apples, 8,400 cases Pears; "Bendigo," to London, 7,599 Apples, 9,673 Pears; April 18, "Otira," to London, 13,858 Apples, to Liverpool, 2,260 Apples. The total shipments to April 21 were as follow: — London, 300,914 cases Apples, 160,656 packages Pears, Hull 73,607 Apples, Liverpool 64,361 Apples, Glasgow 27,498 Apples, Hamburg 83,075 Apples, Bremen 6,186 Apples, Rotterdam 46,336 Apples, Antwerp 2, Oslo 6, thus making a total of 601,985 cases Apples and 160,656 packages Pears. The estimated export of Apples and Pears to April 21 was 873,-970 cases.

ENGLISH FRUIT MARKET.

London (19/4/34).

Apples ex "Clan Farquhar" — Tas. Cox's, 7/- to 12/6 per case; Duke of Clarence, 6/6 to 9/-; Cleo., 8/6 to 10/6; Alf., 9/- to 10/9; Ribstons, 6/- to 8/6; Crabs, 9/- to 9/6.

Pears ex "Tongariro"—Vic., in cases, Howells, 8/9 to 11/9; Boscs, 11/6 to 14/3; Packhams, 11/9 to 13/6; Caps., 8/3 to 9/6; S. Aust., in three-quarter standard cases, Comice, 11/6 to 14/-; Packhams, 8/9 to 12/6.

Liverpool (19/4/34).

Apples ex "Meriones" had active demand. Vic. Granny, 14/3 to 15/-; Cleos. 9/6 to 11/-; Dunn's, 8/3 to 11/9; Romes,

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"The Fruit World," Box 1944 G.P.O., Melbourne.

9/- to 9/6; others, 7/- to 9/3; W.A. Cleo., 10/- to 11/-; Del., 9/-; Dunns, 10/6, and Jons., 6/9 to 8/3.

London, April 26.

Apples ex "Mooltan":—Tas. Cleo., 8/3 to 9/9 case; Alf., 8/6 to 10/3; Scarlets, 7/6 to 8/9; Cox's, 7/9 to 9/9; Jon., 6/9 to 8/-; Ribstons, 6/6 to 8/-; Duke of Clarence, 6/9 to 9/3.

Pears:—Vic. Packham's, 12/- to 13/9; Bosc, 12/6 to 13/-; Howells, 8/6 to 9/-. S. Aust. Jos., 13/6 to 15/3; Bosc, 13/3 to 14/6, and Packham's, 14/- to 14/6 per box. N.S.W. Packham's, 3/6 and W. Coles, 3/3 per tray.

N.Z. Apples ex "Tuscan Star" and "Mamari":—Cox's, 7/6 to 12/6; Ballarats, 8/- to 10/-; Dunn's, 7/9 to 9/6; Londons, 7/6 to 8/3; Del., 8/- to 10/9; Jon., 7/9 to 10/-.

Major H. Dakin, Australian agent for Geo. Monro Ltd., Covent Garden, London, advises under date April 16, having received cabled advices from his principals as follows:—"'Hobsons Bay,' 'Ballarat,' 'Westmorland,' — Sound, but Apples poor quality, many badly spotted, trade very poor. Jonathans, 7/6 to 10/-; Ribstones, Duke Clarence, 7/- to 8/-; Affs., 9/- to 11/-; Reinettes, Mobb's, 8/- to 9/-; Londons, 8/- to 10/-; Worc., 8/6 to 9/6; Granny's, 13/- to 15/6; Cox, 8/6 to 16/-; Pears, fair trade, Howell, cases, 11/- to 12/-. 'Moldavia,' — Generally good, very few sold yet."

Liverpool.—Cabled advices received from Rogers, White & Co., Liverpool, under date April 19, by Parnham Pty. Ltd., Melbourne, are as follows:—Apples ex. "Meriones," sold as follows—G.S., 14/6 to 15/-; Jon., 7/3 to 9/-; Londons, 9/- to 10/3.

S.A. FRUIT EXPORT.

Mr. G. Quinn, of the S.A. Department of Agriculture, stated at the April meeting of the S.A. Fruit Marketing Association, that, up to April 14, 313,776 cases had been shipped, and 5,901 cases rejected, this amounted to 1.77 per cent. of the total. He also gave figures showing the chief causes for rejection, and advised that a complete record would be available at the end of the season, showing in detail the reasons for rejection, and the quantity and varieties effected. Mr. Quinn also stated that during the recent heat wave some fruit had been shipped which showed a temperature at time of shipment of 80 degrees.

He stated it was very pleasing to see the increasing interest on the part of shipowners to stow and carry fruit in a satisfactory manner, while the stevedoring companies were continually improving their methods of handling fruit.

"Orchard Insects of the Pacific North-West and Their Control" (E. J. Newcomer, U.S. Dept. Agr., circ. 270, 1933, pp. 76).

A short account is given of the characteristics, life history and control of some 34 insects harmful to Pears or Apples, and of the more important pests harmful to Cherries, Prunes and Plums, Peaches and Walnuts. A note follows on the beneficial insects found. The following spray materials are considered: lead arsenate, fluorine compounds, lime-sulphur, oil emulsions, nicotine, pyrethrum, as also spreaders and stickers. Finally notes are made on such subsidiary control apparatus as dusting materials, tree bands, insect baits, orchard sanitation.

"Fertilisers Essential to Successful Tomato Growing" (A. C. Orman, "Agr. Gaz. New South Wales," 1933).

Field manurial trials with a private undistributed variety, Sunnybrook Earliana, and with Break o' Day, an American variety (which failed to live up to its American reputation of resistance to Fusarium wilt) are reported. A treatment of 560 lbs. per acre of M.22 mixture (equal parts superphosphate and bonedust) at time of transplanting to the field, followed by a top-dressing of 280 lbs. per acre of P 11 (6 parts superphosphate, and 1 part sulphate of ammonia) about three months later yielded an increase of 310 half-bushel cases per acre over the unmanured controls.

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S.A. FRUIT MARKETING ASSOCIATION.

The monthly meeting of the Executive Committee of the S.A. Fruit Marketing Association was held at Adelaide on April 27. Mr. J. B. Randell occupied the chair.

Excess May Space. Mr. P. R. B. Searcy, on behalf of the sub-committee appointed, stated that although shipping companies had given formal notice to shippers of their liabilities under contract, he did not anticipate that any dead freight would have to be paid.

Pear Space. At the suggestion of Mr. H. J. Bishop, it was decided to forward a letter to the O.S.R.A., Adelaide and Sydney (also a copy to the Federal Minister for Commerce) setting out the very satisfactory prices that had been realised for Pears shipped in March, and the serious loss Pear growers had incurred through being unable to obtain the Pear space required in March.

Correspondence. Letter from Mr. J. B. Mills, president, Australian Apple & Pear Export Council, enclosing copies of correspondence with Right. Hon. S. M. Bruce, High Commissioner for Australia. It was resolved to write to Mr. Mills, expressing appreciation of his efforts on behalf of the industry.

Standard Australasia Contract Form. The Secretary advised having received replies from the various States, and he was requested to write to New Zealand for a copy of the contract generally used there. It was decided that the matter be handled by the Shippers' Committee with a view to drawing up the contract for submission to the other States, so that a form of approval by all States and N.Z. could be submitted to the next meeting of the Australian Apple and Pear Export Council for ratification.

Prize for Packing Competition. Mr. R. B. Pritchard, on behalf of the sub-committee, reported that they had recommended that a prize be given by the Association to the Royal Show for packing Pears. The Royal Agricultural Society approved of the suggestion but desired to know whether the Association would supply the necessary fruit. It was resolved that the Royal Agricultural Society be advised that the Association would supply the necessary fruit.

The report of the research sub-committee was adopted.

Mr. G. Quinn, of the Dept. of Agriculture, gave a valuable report re export totals, and rejected fruit, for which he was thanked.

PEARS AND PLUMS FOR EXPORT.

Commenting on the recent successful shipment of Pears and Plums per s.s. "Maloja," Mr. J. M. Ward, Superintendent of Horticulture, stated that extraordinary care had been taken in the packing and pre-cooling, handling and stowing. More research work, however, was still necessary.

The two most important discoveries had been that the W.B.C. Pears should

not be cool-stored for shipment to overseas markets after the ground color of the skin had shown any signs of yellowing; and secondly, that to obtain the best results from this variety, it should be held after storage at a temperature of 60 or 65 degrees F., until the ripening processes were well advanced before being finally sold to the consumer. In cold climates such as London, or even Melbourne, in the winter time, this may necessitate ripening in special chambers such as are used for Bananas.

CANNED FRUITS ON M.I.A.

At a large meeting of growers of canning fruits at Griffith early in April, uneasiness was expressed at the general situation regarding the disposal of canned fruits. Mr. C. S. Connor presided.

Mr. J. Brady, manager of the Leeton Cannery, said that the unsatisfactory position had arisen through lack of sales of Australian canned fruits in Great Britain during the latter half of 1933, and the heavy accumulation of stocks in Australia.

Mr. Lasscock said the prices were actually controlled by the Sugar Concession Committee, and that despite conferences between the Committee and

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Northwest Fruit Grower
132 So. Mission St., Wenatchee, Washington, U.S.A.

the canneries and growers, the results were not satisfactory from the growers' viewpoint.

* * *

The recent substantial sales in U.K. of canned fruits, however, has helped to clear the market. There is a smaller pack in Victoria owing to Oriental Peach moth and brown rot.

A Committee of nine has been appointed to make further investigations.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

Unsuitable Orchard Lands Planted.

Young.—The Land Board is sitting to consider the basis for the re-appraisement of the orchards on the Young Soldier Settlements. **A sensation was caused when Mr. W. le Gay Brereton (Senior Fruit Instructor of the Department of Agriculture) stated that the specimen blocks inspected should be abandoned, as it was impossible for settlers to make a success of them.**

The Land Board decided on the valuation basis of £40 per acre for average bearing orchards and £7 per acre for orchard land.

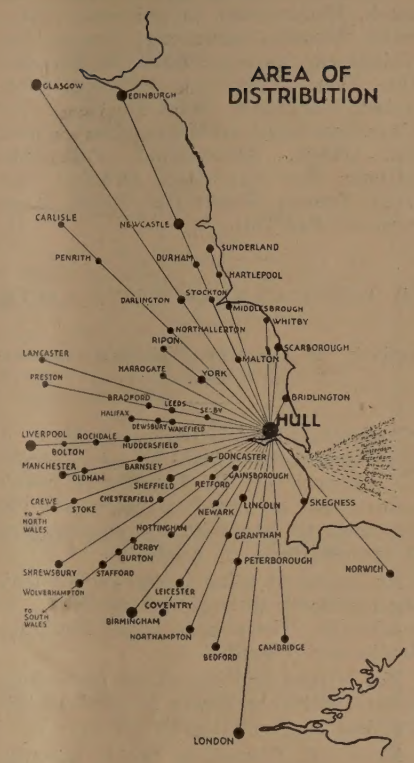
Mildura.—The Navel Oranges this season have a tendency to run to large sizes, 60's to 90's. The best sellers are the sizes 126-140. Growers are finishing the coloring of the fruit with the ethylene gas process.

Messrs. H. Louey Pang & Co., Wholesale Fruit Markets, Melbourne, are receiving substantial loads of Bananas from Tweed River, N.S.W. The Bananas are of good quality and attractively packed. Messrs. Louey Pang & Co. have four special chambers where ripening is efficiently conducted. In addition they also have store-rooms in Little Bourke-street. The firm is one of the accredited agents of the V.C.C.A., and handles large quantities of citrus fruits. They remark that this season the late Valencias have cropped up very well.

VICTORIAN FRUIT EXPORT.

Country Inspection.

The Superintendent of Horticulture, Victoria, states that whilst every endeavor is made to carry out as much inspection at country centres as possible during the Apple and Pear export season, the final place for inspection of such fruit must be at the ship's side or thereabouts. The reason for this is that, although fruit may be passed at country stations, bitter pit and other troubles may develop between the country station and the Port. Usually approximately 50 per cent. of export fruit is inspected at country centres; these places include:—Harcourt, Bendigo, Longlea, Campbell's



Map showing distribution area from the Port of Hull.

SPECIAL NOTICE TO FRUITGROWERS

All Members under Fidelity Bond

In response to numerous requests from growers for information as to who are members of the **Wholesale Fruit Merchants' Association of Victoria** the following list is given. All are members of the above Association, and are registered firms carrying on business in the

WHOLESALE FRUIT MARKET, MELBOURNE.

STAND NUMBERS ARE AS INDICATED IN PARENTHESIS.

T. STOTT & SONS (26).
H. L. E. LOVETT & CO. (23).
A. E. PITT (14).
J. DAVIS PTY. LTD. (8).
W. S. TONG (31).
SILK BROS. PTY. LTD. (24-25).
J. G. MUMFORD (35).
GOLDEN VALLEY FRUIT CO. PTY. LTD. (15).
J. W. ROSS (13).
J. H. YOUNG & CO. PTY. LTD. (32).
H. M. WADE & CO. (21).
DAVID SMITH PTY. LTD. (3).
SILBERT, SHARP & DAVIES PTY. LTD. (17)
W. A. WATKINS (5).
P. A. PATRIKEOS (36).
G. WOOLF & SONS (29-30).
F. CAVE & CO. PTY. LTD. (9).
R. CORNISH & SONS (5).
J. HYMAN & SON (51).
HERBERT WILSON PTY. LTD. (10).
FRANK BOOTH & SONS PTY. LTD. (16).
GEO. LISTER PTY. LTD. (12).
TIM YOUNG & CO. PTY. LTD. (18).

GROWERS PROTECT YOURSELVES by consigning to members of the WHOLESALE FRUIT MERCHANTS' ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA.

J. D. FRASER, Secretary, 21 Wholesale Fruit Market, Queen Street, Melbourne. Phone F 4866.

Correspondence is invited by the Association.

Creek, Elphinstone, Amphitheatre, Elmhurst, Stawell, Quantong, Shepparton, Whittlesea, Diamond Creek, Hurstbridge, Yan Yean, Ringwood, Croydon, Doncaster, Blackburn, East Burwood, Mt. Waverley, Bacchus Marsh, Narre Warren, Officer, Beaconsfield, Pakenham, Garfield, Nar Nar Goon, Drouin, Warragul, Tynong, Somerville, Tyabb, Hastings and Red Hill.

TO ASSIST CANNED FRUIT SALES.

Activity of Country Women's Association.

CONGRATULATIONS to Mrs. J. Green, President of the Leeton Branch of the Country Women's Association, on the launching of her campaign to stimulate the consumption of canned fruits in Australia.

An appeal is being issued to Women's organisations throughout Australia to co-operate. The slogan being "Fruit for Health and Wealth."

Mrs. Green and her enthusiastic supporters will do a power of good in this practical and worthwhile effort.

Mr. C. R. Glover, of Leeton recently made available the following figures:—

Canned fruit — Apricots, Peaches and Pears:—

	Tins.
Approximate quantity available for sale in 1934	51,000,000
Estimated sales for 1934 ..	46,000,000
Estimated surplus to be carried over into 1935	4,400,000

One of the busy docks at Port of Hull, England.

APPLE AND PEAR EXPORT.

4,000,000 Bushels to April 21, 1934.

The Apples and Pears exported from Australia to U.K. and Continent for the present season up to April 24, according to figures supplied by the Department of Commerce, are as follows (in bushel cases):—

	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld.	Sth. Aust.	W.A.	Tas.
Apples	69,543	584,627	38,316	436,316	443,743	2,089,576
Pears	20,110	183,778	178	28,823	28,854	63,559
	89,653	768,405	38,494	465,139	472,597	2,153,135

These figures make a total of 3,662,121 Apples and 325,302 Pears.

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Fruit Exchange, Brisbane

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